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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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To spend that shortness basely were too long."

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(NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 483).

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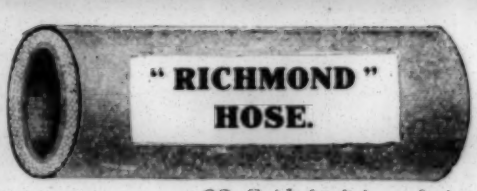

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Notes and News.

The National Union in Council.

The Council of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies met on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27th and 28th, in the Chelsea Town Hall. The hall is a large one, but its capacity was taxed to the utmost to seat all the delegates who were present. The meeting was certainly the largest that has ever gathered together to consider the position and policy of the Union. Even the gallery was crowded, and every seat in the body of the hall was occupied. The business was, of course, confidential.

Disabilities of Professional and Working Women.

With the close of the Woman's Kingdom Exhibiton, we propose to start at once on a new section of the National Union's educational campaign. The large subject of the disabilities imposed by law, or by custom, which will require legislation to break it down, upon women in their attempt to earn a livelihood, will be dealt with in a series of articles by experts. We begin this week with a criticism from the pen of Miss Clementina Black, of the Report issued by the Civil Service Commission.

The National Liberal Federation and Woman's Suffrage.

We learn that the wording of the Suffrage resolution passed by the National Liberal Federation was not given quite correctly in the *Manchester Guardian*, from which we quoted it. It should run :—" That this General Committee desires to record its approval of the principle of Woman's Suffrage." The terms were less urgent and less satisfactory than those quoted, and the matter is too important not to be very carefully chronicled. It is, however, obviously well to have even this expression of opinion from so powerful a body.

A Very Obvious Trap

Opponents of the Plumage Bill have, with ingenuity worthy of a better cause, actually decided to harness the whole of the Suffrage movement into its service. A resolution is, we understand, to be moved to the effect that the Bill should wait for the enfranchisement of women, before being placed on the Statute-book, as it is women who are chiefly concerned! That the House of Commons should defer legislation about hat trimmings while it deals with Taxation, Wages Boards, Education, Disestablishment, the feeding of school-children, Insurance, &c., &c. (the list is endless), *because the hat-trimming business affects women*, is really too engagingly absurd a suggestion for the most guileless. That any " legislation concerning women " should be proceeded with without the enfranchisement of women is the real injustice. But the traders in feathers who fear for their profits may rest assured that women will offer no opposition to the protection of the birds. If Suffragists were to fall into this presposterous trap, they would naturally array against Women's Suffrage the whole forces of the plumage trade, anxious to postpone the day of their enfranchisement.

The Woman's Movement in Russia.

The *Times* Special Supplements must surely be rapidly converting the *Times* public to Woman's Suffrage. Nothing could be better propaganda than the Russian Supplement of April 27th, with its admirable article on the position of Russian women. It is a curious and a deeply interesting fact that equality, whether of rights or wrongs, seems to produce comradeships and mutual respect between men and women; while inequality breeds suspicion and hostility. In Russia the long and bitter struggle for freedom brought men and women together, as in Australia, New Zealand, and Norway, equality in liberty has done. But when men gained even the shadowy rights of representation in the Duma, and the women were left out, that comradeship began to break down. It will need the restoration of equality—in freedom this time, we hope, and not in suffering —to restore that good feeling which prevailed when the struggle was a common struggle towards a common good.

The Double Standard Again.

It is interesting to compare the fevered anxiety of the British press to count the votes cast by women in the first elections in which they took part in Chicago, with its complete silence on the subject of the votes cast by men at a recent election in New York. *One-fifth* of the voters went to the poll on a question connected with a revision of the Constitution, of which the *New York Times* says, " few things are more important." The writer adds, " Women Suffragists are welcome to all the advantage they may gain, and any taunts and gibes they may direct against the male voters will be freely forgiven. Women would have striven in vain to do anything sillier! " It is rather poor comfort for the women ; but what is a real source of hope is that where women vote, the interest of men has increased, and the male vote has gone up.

Women and the Churches.

Women whose interest in religious work prevents them from diverting their energies into the Suffrage movement, might do a real service to their sex in another way. We are informed that much of the apathy of " religious people " towards the Woman's Movement is due to the fact that it has as yet made small stir in their particular world. Women do not demand wider opportunities of service, better training, or better positions on governing boards. If this is so, women should begin doing so at once! Only so will they persuade their world that the movement among women is a real and a vital one, for people judge always by what they see and feel themselves. It is true that the women who care most for progress are so repelled by the attitude of the Churches towards their aspiration that they have largely turned to other kinds of work, and notably to Suffrage work. We think they are wise. But there remains a number whose interests, or whose duty keeps them from this course, and upon them we urge most strongly the other method of advance.

Progress.

It is true that there is a change in the atmosphere of the Churches. A correspondent informs us that in Halifax the " parent-church " of Congregationalism has lately passed a resolution affirming that women should be eligible as deacons. The Congregationalists have, we believe, always been in the forefront of progress in these matters.

Equal Standards.

The report of the Committee appointed by Convocation to consider the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, has reported against all grounds for divorce with the notable exception that it approves of the equalisation of the law as between the sexes. That is to say, admitting that infidelity is a ground for divorce on the part of the husband, it must also be admitted as a ground for the wife to obtain similiar relief. It is striking that, as far as we are able to discover, no one in the whole country—that is to say, no body of people, we cannot, of course, speak for individuals—has failed to assent to this elementary act of justice. It was the one on which the whole of the Royal Commission was agreed. Nevertheless, the grievance admitted by all remains unrelieved, and Mr. Asquith has said he has no intention of introducing legislation on the subject. It is impossible to suppose that this would be the case if the grievance was one felt by voters.

Local Government.

The very interesting report of the Local Government Society shows that 679 women are now serving on Education Committees. The number is slowly increasing, but it is of course small compared with the number serving on School Boards before 1902. Mr. Balfour's Education Act swept away this opening for women in Local Government, and no amount of service rendered, or duties admirably fulfilled, availed to save these voteless persons from being sacrificed to political exigencies.

Women Chairmen.

Among other interesting items, we observe that seven women have been appointed Chairmen of Boards of Guardians, two of whom (Miss Duncan and Miss Seddon) also discharged the office of Justice of the Peace in the matter of signing certification orders for pauper lunatics. In Ireland, Mrs. Ellegot has been appointed as Collector of Town and Water Rates in the Listowel U.D.C., and two ladies as " Clerk and Executive Sanitary Officer."

A New Serial for "The Common Cause."

Mrs. Rentoul Esler, whose work as a novelist has been compared with that of Miss Edgworth, begins her new serial story, " Wind and Tide," in The Common Cause next week. To all who know her writings, this will be good news, for Mrs. Esler is a novelist of originality and distinction. To the few who do not, we can promise a delight in store, and we urge all our readers to seize this opportunity to enrol new subscribers to The Common Cause.

In Parliament.

[We make no attempt to give a full account of the week's proceedings in Parliament. Our aim is merely to show what Parliament is doing with regard to questions which we have special reason to think would be more satisfactorily dealt with if women had the vote.]

Wednesday, April 22nd.

MILK (SUPPLY AND SALE).

MR. ASTOR (Plymouth, U.) moved that fresh legislation is needed to control the supply and sale of milk. He said his intention was to try to discover what the intentions of the Government were. The late President of the Local Government Board had introduced several Milk Bills; the Departmental Committee on Tuberculosis had reported in favour of legislation a year ago; the new President of the Local Government Board had welcomed the Report. "The welcome remains; the legislation has not yet arrived." Mr. Astor quoted various authorities in support of the view that infected milk was a source of tuberculosis, especially in children. In London 10 per cent. of the milk is tuberculous. Legislation about milk is antiquated, and the regulations in different parts of the country so various as to leave the farmer in a state of utter bewilderment. It ought to be possible to classify milk, so that the public should know what they were buying. It would not be necessary to forbid the sale of inferior milk, but people should be in a position to know exactly what was offered them. Pasteurised milk had been used in New York with immediate effect on the infant death-rate, and he believed it could be used here, but only under Government inspection and control.

SIR RANDOLF BAKER (N. Dorset, U.) urged that it was not proved that tuberculosis could really be transmitted to human beings from cow's milk. MR. ALDEN (Tottenham, L.) claimed that the latest authorities on the subject had proved beyond doubt that it could be, and was. He did not believe we could get pure milk without further legislation. Other speakers strongly endorsed this view.

MR. H. SAMUEL (President, Local Government Board) agreed with this view, and admitted the absurdity of carrying on "a great national campaign against tuberculosis," while ignoring this great source of infection. The Royal Commission of 1901, after six years of investigation, had unanimously reported that a great deal of disease, especially among the young, must be attributed to the consumption of milk containing tuberculous bacilli. The Departmental Committee on Tuberculosis had come to the same conclusion:—

"It is also agreed on all hands that the present measures which are taken by the law and the administration of the law to stop these hundreds and thousands of deaths of children, especially from tuberculosis through milk, are quite inadequate. This death-rate continues, and the children are now dying. Week by week and month by month thousands more of them are suffering from hip disease, diseases of the glands, and other causes, which we are told on the best authority are the result of taking tuberculous milk, and it is plain that it is the duty of the State to take these matters into account, and to act effectively."

Mr. Samuel believed that the law might be made much more effective, and that much adulteration of milk existed which could not be checked without further legislation. There was an enormous body of expert opinion behind the demand for it. "This is a matter for the general law: it is not a matter for local legislation." A Bill would certainly be introduced very shortly, and he hoped to make it an agreed Bill. The question was put and agreed to.

Thursday, April 23rd.

POLICE STATION MATRONS.

"MAJOR GILMOUR (E. Renfrew, U.) asked the Home Secretary, with reference to the conditions of service of matrons in police stations, whether they are on duty from 4 p.m. to midnight in one week, and from midnight till 10 a.m the next, and on alternative Sundays from 10 p.m. till 10 a.m. Monday, and receive no pension, no police medical attendance, and no pay during sickness nor during their one week's holiday; and if so, whether he can see his way to improve the position of these women, whose duties are arduous and often repulsive and dangerous?"

"MR. MCKENNA: The hours of attendance vary according to local circumstances, but may be said to be approximately as stated, except that during most of the night-time they are resting, and are relieved from attendance before 10 a.m. whenever possible. Arrangements for a weekly rest day have also been made. The appointment is not pensionable, and matrons do not receive ordinary pay during sickness and annual leave, but they receive sickness benefit and medical attendance under the National Insurance Act."

SUPPLY.

In Committee of Supply, MR. JAMES HOGGE pointed out that the wages of female typists in the Treasury Department were from 20s. to 26s., and some charwomen got as little as 10s. a week. Yet the estimate of sales from waste amounted to £7,000. He would like to know whether these charwomen were engaged all the time, and how such wages compared with those paid elsewhere.

SIR J. D. REES (E. Nottingham, U.) complained that the hon. member was "egging-on" the Government to increase the pay of its female employees. "If they are satisfied and can be got at this wage, I think it inconsistent of the hon. member to urge the Government to increase those wages."

Friday, April 24th.

JUNIOR ASSISTANT MISTRESSES (IRELAND).

"MR. FLAVIN (N. Kerry, Nat.) asked the Chief Secretary how many junior assistant mistresses at present in the service of the National Board in Ireland are in receipt of a salary less than the full allowance of £24 a year?"

"MR. BIRRELL (Secretary for Ireland): The Commissioners of National Education inform me that there are 176 junior assistant mistresses in receipt of a salary of less than £24 a year, and of these fifty-four are engaged in schools whose averages range from thirty to thirty-five."

Monday, April 27th.

PLURAL VOTING BILL.

In the debate on the Plural Voting Bill all the threadbare arguments, for and against, were reproduced; but it was obvious that most of the speakers regarded the question purely as it would affect the chances of their own party.

MR. HUME WILLIAMS (Bassetlaw, U.) complained that while the anomalies and injustices of our present electoral law are patent, the Government had chosen to deal with only one, and demanded:—

"Why are they left unremedied? Why do the Government choose but one admittedly small item which they are pleased to christen an anomaly and deal with that, while leaving all the others untouched? I think the reason is obvious. They do not know what the result of a real reform might be upon their electoral prospects. They do know what the result of this bill is going to be."

SIR JOHN RANDLES (N.W. Manchester, U.) reminded the Government that their earlier Reform Bill had held out "possibilities and hopes of votes for women:—

"Perhaps a good deal of trouble in the country in connection with that question might be attributable to the manner in which the Government have dealt with electoral reform."

He warned the Government that the country would regard this Bill purely as an electioneering trick, and urged that they should not let it be thought that "the House of Commons is legislating to perpetuate its own personal membership, and to perpetuate in place and power any Government."

MR. HARCOURT (Secretary of State for the Colonies) confessed that the Government were dealing with the matter because they found it to their own advantage to do so, and said that the very fact that the Opposition suggested that this was so showed that the extent to which the Liberals suffered was the exact measure of the extent by which the opposite party gained.

In defending the Government's conduct with regard to the Reform Bill he maintained that "all these reforms had to be postponed owing to the unfortunate insistence of some ladies who desire the vote" and that they must now be content with what could be got in the lifetime of the present Parliament.

MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON (Barnard Castle, Lab.), though supporting the Bill, regretted that the Government had never yet introduced a Bill for dealing with the anomalies as injustices of electoral laws, "such as the greatness of the question, or the justice of the position required." It seemed to him that the Labour Party had as much reason to object to these anomalies as the Opposition.

"We are specially interested, as we have demonstrated in this House on many occasions, in the great question of the non-representation and the non-enfranchisement of women. We would have liked, if it had been possible, for this question to have been treated along with the question of plural voting in a great scheme of electoral reform."

Wednesday, April 29th.

AGE OF CONSENT BILL.

SECOND READING CARRIED BY THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON, in moving the Second Reading of this Bill in the House of Lords, said that he did so as Chairman of the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality, which embodied all shades of opinion, and he had the support and sympathy of the National Council of the Free Churches. The Bill was fourfold in character. It proposed to raise from thirteen to sixteen the age at which the consent of a young person is a defence in cases of indecent assault. It suggested that eighteen should be the age at which a girl may legally consent to her own undoing; it extended to twelve months the period in which proceedings could be taken against offenders, and dis-

posed of the defence that there "was reasonable cause to believe" girls were over the ages specified.

The present law enabled many offenders against children to escape the consequences of their act, and the Bishop quoted a recent case at Westminster Police Court, where the defendant, who had assaulted a child just over thirteen years of age, was discharged on account of difficulties as to age under the existing law. If the age of consent to wrong-doing were raised to eighteen, it would result in clearing the streets of prostitutes under that age. That had undoubtedly been the result of the Criminal Law Act of 1885, as regards girls under sixteen, as practically no child prostitutes had since been seen on the streets of London. He confidently claimed the support of the House, seeing that their own Committees in 1882 and 1885 had recommended the very age limits suggested by this Bill. A passing allusion to the protection of property drew from him the phrase: "We protect the property of a girl up to twenty-one, and it is surely more important that we should protect her chastity up to at least eighteen years."

The only objection his Lordship had ever heard to these proposals were those of the possibility of blackmail. This was the great argument used against the Bill in 1885, but as a result of inquiries made amongst many Societies which had great experience in dealing with cases, he could confidently say that not one case of a girl attempting blackmail was known to any of them or to himself.

It was necessary to extend the time under which proceedings could be taken to twelve months seeing that at present the offender was often able to silence his victims until the six months had elapsed, and when the girl's condition became known, it was too late for action to be taken. He pleaded that a girl, who by healthy surroundings and training had obtained a well-favoured presence, should not suffer through her appearance in cases of this description, because she appeared older than she really was. Dealing with the evidence which he submitted to the House in support of his claim, he pointed out that the Central Authority for the White Slave Traffic in this country had expressed a strong opinion in favour of the purpose of this Bill, as regards the age-limits mentioned, and it was interesting to note that in many State Legislatures in America these ages had been placed on the Statute Book.

Unfortunately, in this country, whilst it was a crime for a bookmaker or a moneylender to approach a minor in connection with their calling, it was no misdemeanour for a seducer to ruin a young girl over sixteen, and he asked the House to consider why such an anomaly existed. At that age a girl could not be expected to understand the responsibilities of life, and he made a strong appeal to their Lordships for sympathy in this direction. There was very strong public desire for the protection of girls in this matter, as the statistics of various Societies showed that these offences were on the increase. He had been profoundly impressed by a resolution passed by the Association of Poor Law Unions in Great Britain, which had unanimously resolved to approach the Government on the question of extending the period in which proceedings could be taken.

The Lord Chancellor declared that the purpose of the Bill was wholly admirable, but the machinery was defective. He suggested that the House should approve the purpose of the Bill, and undertook on behalf of the Government to confer with the Home Office as to what practical amendments could be introduced to make the Bill workable.

The Marquess of Lansdowne and Viscount St. Aldwyn urged that the Bill should be proceeded with in that House, provided the Home Office would supply the necessary information. Ultimately, the Lord Chancellor stated that if the Committee Stage were adjourned until July, he would undertake to obtain the expert assistance of the Home Office in submitting amendments that might enable the Bill to be made more practical. This proposition was accepted by the Bishop of London, and the Bill was read a second time on that understanding.

Resolutions passed at Council Meetings of the N.U.

Among other resolutions, the Council unaminously passed the the following:--

This Council welcomes the introduction of a Women's Suffrage Bill in the House of Lords.

Also (with regard to Mrs. Humphry Ward's Advisory Committee):—

This Council strongly condemns the organisation of an unrepresentative advisory council of women, not free to discuss all questions of interest to the country and without power to enforce legislation, as a substitute for the Parliamentary Enfranchisement of women.

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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN.

The International Council of Women will hold its Quinquennial Sessions at Rome, from May 4th—13th. It is expected that representatives of over twenty nationalities will take part in the conference, the headquarters of which will be the Hotel Quirinal. Resolutions will be moved on the following questions, among many others :—

"The equal rights of parents with regard to their children.
"The Civil Rights of Women in respect to Personal Rights and Property.
"Effective protection of women against the abominable violation to which they are the victims in times of war.
"The formation of Juvenile Courts in all countries, with women to preside over them.
"The licensing of employment and registry offices.
"Suppression of houses of ill-fame.
"Supervision of young girls travelling on steamers.

On May 15th there will be a big Suffrage meeting, organised by the Italian Suffragists, and from the 16th—24th a Congress arranged by the Italian Council of Women Workers.

REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The seventh annual Conference on Nursing and Midwifery was held at Westminster from April 28th to May 1st. Miss Zoe Puxley, who presided over the political section, referred to the growing recognition of nursing as one of the most important factors in public health work, and Sir Victor Horsley moved a resolution calling upon the Government to accept Dr. Chapple's Bill for the State Registration of Nurses.

Registration, he said, would consolidate the profession, and would improve education, conditions of work, and the social status of nurses. It would also make it possible for them to secure a proper remuneration for their work. "People say to me," said Sir Victor, "that nurses are fairly well remunerated. I think exactly the opposite. I am perfectly certain that a great deal of the shortage of nurses at present is due to that simple fact." The public did not realise that the question was not only one of advantage to the nursing profession, but primarily it was a question of public health. Surely the public would not tolerate it, if they realised that children with infectious fevers were now being left in the homes of the poor, because the fever hospitals could not take them in.

Lord Knutsford stated several objections to registration, and maintained that it did not guarantee the fitness of a nurse or her character. A vote resulted in the resolution being carried by a large majority.

DEARTH OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The report of the Board of Education for 1912-13, issued on April 18th, draws attention to the dearth of elementary school teachers in England, which it describes as a "very grave situation." The following table shows that the number of bursars and pupil teachers, from which the supply of teachers is mainly drawn, has greatly diminished during the last few years :—

	Pupil Teachers.		Bursars.		Total
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Entrants.
1906-7 ...	2,468	8,550 ...	—	— ...	11,018
1907-8 ...	2,092	6,205 ...	637	1,406 ...	10,340
1908-9 ...	1,302	3,907 ...	1,112	2,393 ...	8,714
1909-10 ...	894	2,956 ...	1,090	2,251 ...	7,191
1910-11 ...	583	2,029 ...	723	2,041 ...	5,376
1911-12 ...	393	1,562 ...	723	2,135 ...	4,813
1912-13 ...	296	1,173 ...	614	2,225 ...	4,308
1913-14 ...	251	1,203 ...	598	2,434 ...	4,486

There are many causes for this decline, but the chief appears to be economic. While the average salaries of certificated teachers have increased, during the last ten years, there has also been a considerable rise in the cost of living. Also, the bursar system, which is now the commonest avenue to the teaching profession, has postponed the time of wage-earning till the age of nineteen, or even later, so that during the secondary school period boys and girls not only contribute nothing to the family income, but are often a charge upon it. It is true that maintenance grants have been awarded in many cases, but these have been small, and have not been granted till the pupil was seventeen or eighteen. During the last few years, too, owing to trade prosperity, the number and variety of other openings for boys and girls has increased, so that the teaching profession appears less attractive.

The Board proposes remedies under three heads :—

(1) The development of rural pupil-teachership on improved lines; (2) some further assistance by the State to meet the expenses incidental to preliminary education where the bursar system is applicable; (3) the encouragement and assistance of schemes other than the bursar and pupil-teacher systems for bringing recruits into the profession.

The important question of salaries, however, will still remain to be dealt with, and the Board do not see their way to depart from the essential features of the bursar system. While it has kept out of the profession many children whose parents cannot afford to support them during their period of training, the Board are satisfied that a period of continuous attendance at a good secondary school has resulted in a marked improvement in the general education of intending teachers, and that to abandon it would be to do serious harm to elementary education.

INTERNATIONAL ABOLITIONIST CONFERENCE AT PORTSMOUTH.

A conference of the Fédération Abolitioniste Internationale, will be held in Portsmouth, June 15th to 18th. This association was founded in 1875 by Josephine Butler, its object being the "abolition of prostitution, specially regarded as a legal or tolerated institution." In addition to this special aim, it also carries on a permanent inquiry as to the moral, economic, or other causes of this evil, and the means of remedying it. The subject of the June Conference will be "A Constructive Policy," for dealing (a) with the Reduction of Venereal Disease, (b) the Reduction of Immorality.

IRELAND AND MILITANCY.

At first sight the present situation in Ulster might seem a convincing argument in favour of the theory that all political power rests in the last resort on physical force. It is in the memory of all how the Government rejected the amendment proposed by the Opposition excluding Ulster from the action of the Home Rule Bill. It never occurred to anyone that a solution of the crisis might be found in some modification of the exclusion plan.

In March last the Government themselves made a series of suggestions turning upon a conditional exclusion of Ulster. Have any fresh arguments been advanced by the Unionist Party to justify this change of front? None; but the fact that Ulster to-day can put into the field a force of nearly a hundred thousand men, perhaps more At first sight this may seem a testimony to the supremacy of physical force; but on looking into the matter carefully one begins to doubt. I have talked repeatedly with level-headed men in both political camps; and nearly all of them admit that Ulster could not as a matter of fact resist the forces of the Crown for any appreciable length of time

Whatever be the truth about the Army, it is certain that if the Government really made up its mind to crush Ulster, the thing could be done. But what then? Would Ulster, even if crushed, be conquered? "The Government may decide to shoot us down," said a County Down farmer to me the other day, "but it cannot conquer us. We are prepared to be shot." In that sentence lies the secret. The resistance of Ulster, if it be successful, will owe its success, not to the hundred thousand men, not to the machine guns which may or may not be there, but to the fact that these men are prepared to be shot. The drill which gives men the knowledge how to shoot is of great value in war; but the moral passion which gives them the strength to face the fire of trained troops is of infinitely greater value. I do not wish to discuss here the question whether the Ulster resistance is justified by the facts of the case or not; that is nothing to my point. I only wish to emphasise the fact that the even partial success of this resistance is due not only to the material equipment, but to the moral force that rightly or wrongly has been thrown into the movement.

Another point interesting in this connection may be noted. Those who read The Common Cause have not militant sympathies. But everyone in the Suffrage movement recognises the singleness of heart and the self-sacrificing devotion which are the salt of militancy. The actual things done are in the opinion of many Suffragists injurious to the cause which they are supposed to serve. But the spirit which is at the heart of the militant movement is a moral force of inestimable value, if only it could express itself in a different manner. The militants have shown they are willing to suffer for the faith that is in them. Therefore the Government is practically powerless to crush militancy, just as it is powerless to crush the Ulster resistance. The spirit at the heart of each is a moral passion, therefore militants, be they fighting under the banner of Sir E. Carson or of the Women's Social and Political Union, cannot be repressed by the use of force. It is not here my business to consider what means other than force could be used against the Ulster resistance. But with regard to Suffragists, the means are obvious. Force is no remedy; coercion without redress of grievances is useless. These are old maxims, and only by adherence to them can militancy be suppressed.

Dora Mellone, Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation.

IRISH WORKERS' DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

On Friday, May 8th, at 8 p.m., a performance will be given at King's Hall, Covent Garden, by the Irish Workers' Dramatic Society, in aid of Miss Delia Larkin's co-operative scheme. The programme will consist of Irish songs and dances, "The Building Fund," a comedy in three acts by William Boyle, "The Workhouse Ward," by Lady Gregory, and selections by Irish war pipers in native costume. The King's Hall being unlicensed, tickets can only be obtained by members of the Society, and no money will be taken at the doors. Further details may be obtained from S. Seruya (Secy.), 21, Tudor Street, E.C., or L. Tillard (Treas.) c/o I.W.F. Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN RESENT APPOINTMENT OF ANTI-SUFFRAGIST GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The following resolutions were passed at a meeting held under the auspices of the Women's Political Association of Victoria :—

"(1) That this Association having received by mail a record of Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson's votes against Woman Suffrage in the Imperial Parliament, protests against the appointment of an Anti-suffragist as Governor-General of the Commonwealth, and begs to inform the Prime Minister of Australia and the Prime Minister of Great Britain, that Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson's support of the enfranchisement of women for Home Rule Parliaments does not compensate for his opposition to votes for women for the Imperial Parliament, which is a crime against civilisation as well as against the democratic principles for which Australia stands united.

"(2) That this Association demands that the Commonwealth Parliament shall, on re-assembling, take such steps as are necessary to safeguard the political status of Australian women resident in Great Britain, or in any other part of the Empire where representative government obtains. Australian men are not reduced to a lower political level than criminals, lunatics, and aliens, by going to reside in other self-governing parts of the Empire, and it is intolerable that Australian women should be so degraded."

NEW ZEALAND.

Infant Welfare.

The *Canterbury Times* reports that, in order to get authentic information as to the number of cases of infantile paralysis and to prevent it spreading, the disease will now be made notifiable.

SWEDISH ELECTIONS.

The Swedish elections have resulted in the return of 86 Conservatives, 71 Liberals, and 73 Socialists, a disappointing result from the Suffrage point of view.

The question of National Defence has been regarded as paramount by many Suffragists, and the Swedish (affiliated) Suffrage Society, while maintaining its neutral policy as a body, decided to permit its individual members to work for the political party with which they were in sympathy. This attitude shows the keen anxiety of Swedish women in regard to National Defence, but it may have the lamentable effect of postponing their enfranchisement for many years. There is still a possibility, however, of a Liberal-Socialist combination which might overthrow the present Government and result in a return of Herr Staaf to power.

OUR SILENT ADVOCATES.

SWITZERLAND.

The *Grand Conseil* of Geneva has pronounced against the proposal of the Suffragists to include women in the Council of *Prud' hommes*, a very urgent reform from the point of view of the woman worker, who is now dependent upon men for the settlement of her trade disputes. However, the majority by which the proposal was rejected was a small one, and *Le Mouvement Feministe* remarks :—"We are beaten but not at all discouraged . . . we are going to begin the battle over again."

WOMAN'S MOVEMENT IN PERU.

"The West Coast Leader" reports that the Woman's Movement has at last spread to Latin America, an organisation having been formed at Lima (Peru) by Señorita Maria Jesus Alvarado Rivera, under the title "*La evolucion feménina.*" The object of this society is to work for "the advancement and diffusion of feminine culture and to defend the truths, interests and rights of women in all classes of society." Its programme is :—

"1. Foundation of a social periodical defending and promoting the work of the society.

"2. Urging before the next Congress :—

"(*a*) The sanction of the bills tending to assist women and extend their field of action, as certain Representatives have urged.

"(*b*) Official protection for the professional and higher education of women.

"(*c*) The abrogation of the law which prohibits women from practising jurisprudence.

"3. To secure effective official and private protection for maternity.

"4. To diffuse the principles of the scientific training and up-bringing of children.

"5. To give conferences in harmony with the objects of the association."

During the past week the first meeting of the new organisation was held at the residence of Señora Rosalía de Hermoza, at which a numerous gathering were present.

FRENCH ELECTIONS.

The *Times*, April 28th, reports :—

"Nearly 17,000 votes were recorded in Paris and suburbs yesterday for the experiment initiated by *Le Journal* to test woman's interest in the franchise in France. The provincial votes—for the experiment applied to the whole country—have not yet been counted; they are received for the most part by post, and will not be counted till the final close of the poll on May 3rd." Suffragists in France, though they have co-operated in this experiment, do not regard it as a "test" of women's desire to vote.

HUNGARY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A Bill has been introduced into the Hungarian Parliament by Herr Bela Ken, Under Secretary to the Ministry of Justice, for the formation of a new central department for dealing with questions of child welfare. At present there are some 1,000 different societies engaged in various enterprises for the benefit of children, in addition to work carried on by the Municipalities and the State. The idea of the Bill is to concentrate all the effort, and prevent overlapping. According to a correspondent of the *Daily Citizen* :—

"The department would be accommodated in a 'children's house' with local branch establishments, where the offices of the existing societies would be stationed; juvenile courts set up; homes found for stray children; and medical and other advice given to parents. One clause of the Bill provides for the special care of any children in whom unusual talent, in science or in art, is detected and in need of encouragement."

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WOMENS SUFFRAGE IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT.

On Wednesday, April 1st (private members' day), Hon. Hugh Wyndham, Member for Turffontein (Johannesburg), moved the Second Reading of the Women's Enfranchisement Bill in the Parliament of the Union of South Africa.

The Bill consists of two clauses. The first provides that women in each of the four provinces of the Union possessed of those qualifications which would enfranchise men in that particular province, shall be entitled to registration as voters. The four provinces of the Union have different franchise qualification. In the two new provinces, the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, there is a strong colour bar, behind which Adult Suffrage is granted to white men. Therefore the passage of this Bill would enfranchise every adult white woman in those two provinces. In Natal there are property qualifications. The Cape Province, in making civilisation rather than colour the basis of its franchise, though it appears less liberal than the white adult Suffrage provinces, is in reality far more so. Here there is a small property or earning qualification, and a very slight educational test. The passage of this Bill would therefore enfranchise a large number of white women, and some coloured women. Its probable effect would be to increase the proportion of the white vote. The second clause of Mr. Wyndham's Bill applies to provinces where the property qualification exists, and provides, in effect, that the man shall have the preference in the case where the property jointly occupied by husband and wife is large enough to enfranchise one, but not both. Otherwise it might be left to mutual settlement which of the two was to exercise the vote.

In the debate, which began early in the afternoon, and continued till the House adjourned just before 6 p.m., fourteen speeches were made, eight in favour of the Second Reading, and six against. Of those in favour of the Bill, the most important were those by the mover himself, Mr. Wyndham (Unionist, Opposition), and the Prime Minister, General Botha.

General Botha made an eloquent speech on the services of South African women, pointing to their self-sacrifice, courage, and heroism in the past, and recalling the promise of citizenship in which the Voortrekkers induced their women to leave their pioneer homes and to start once more their wanderings in the wilderness. His speech, however, contained an insidious suggestion, likely to do the cause infinite harm with the members of his own party, without whose support the Bill has not the remotest chance of passing; and this suggestion was to the effect that country women on their lonely farms would find it more difficult to reach the polling booths than the women of the towns. In other words, the enfranchisement of women, according to him, would be likely to increase the Unionist vote out of proportion to that of his own party. He made some slight reparation in suggesting that it might be possible for the country woman to be allowed to send her vote by post.

The six speeches made against the Bill were all made by the members of the South African Party, that is, by the Government Party. Their main objects were "ridicule and the Bible." However, it must be acknowledged (gratefully) that ridicule had a smaller place, and serious objections greater, than in previous debates.

Of the remaining six speeches on the side of the Bill, four were made by Unionists, one by a Labour member, and one by a South African Party man. That gives the analysis of speakers thus: of the eight in favour, five Unionists, one Labour, and two South African Party (Government). The six against the Bill were all Government Party. This is most ominous, and the six South African Party speakers are an indication of the huge majority on the Government side against the Bill. The matter was not disposed of, but the debate was adjourned till April 29th, so that at the time this paper went to press the result was not known.

E. M. Woods.

May Magazines.

The Englishwoman.—The May number of *The Englishwoman* opens with an interesting and important article, in which Mr. John, Liberal M.P. for E. Denbighshire, discusses the bearing on the Suffrage demand of the present movement towards Federalism. Though few people seem yet to have thought out very clearly what they mean by Federalism, it is clear, as Mr. John points out, that there is a growing belief that in a federal solution will be found the only "way out" of our present difficulties. In this case—and supposing the tendency becomes a real demand—how will Women's Suffrage be affected? Mr. John points out that Anti-suffragists have largely conceded the right of women to a voice in domestic matters, and that the difficulties with regard to electoral qualifications will be much more easily surmounted in the case of local than of Imperial Parliaments. "Mr. McKinnon Wood, the Secretary for Scotland, has already intimated that the Ministerial Government of Scotland Bill will concede the franchise to women, a statement which, it is fair to assume, must have had the sanction of the Prime Minister." Mr. John's own Bill for the Government of Wales included Women's Suffrage in its provisions. Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon, it is true, show "ingrained Conservatism and obduracy on this point," as regards Ireland; but Ulster will find it difficult to go back on the position conceded by Sir Edward Carson a little while ago, in the case of his proposed Provisional Government. It certainly looks as though women might make a tremendous advance if Federalism is to be the solution of the Irish difficulty, though that advance

cannot be regarded as in any sense final till women have the vote for all government "on the same terms" as men.

Other interesting articles are on the French working-classes, whose less depressing condition than our own Mme. Muriel Ciolkowska attributes in part at least to the fact that "there are no families . . . where the mother is not a bread-winner"; the "Reform of Children's Clothing," a plea that little girls should be set free from the intolerable burden of clothing at present imposed upon them by convention; "The Irish Dramatist," by St. John G. Ervine; and "Marriage Customs in Ireland," by Michael MacDonagh.

Jus Suffragii.—A special anniversary number, containing portraits of Mrs. Chapman Catt, the Papal Prelate Giesswein, the Queen of Holland, the oldest voter in Europe (Sophia Palin of Finland), and the Presidents of the National Councils; also a fine full-page cartoon from Rembrandt's "Faust," showing the politician and Woman's Suffrage. Besides reports of the year's work in a large number of countries, this number contains an article by Annie Furuhjelm, M.P., "Woman's Suffrage: A Man's Question," by I. Zangwill; "The Educative Value of Woman's Suffrage," by Emile Vandervelde; "Love and Suffrage," by Gabriele Reuter; "The Logic of Anti-suffragism," by John Galsworthy; "Liberty and Woman's Suffrage," by Hon. S. Barzilai, M.P. (Italy); "The Ethical Meaning of the Woman's Movement," by Dr. Giesswein; "Woman's Suffrage and Division of Labour," by Oda Olberg; "The Municipal Vote in France," by F. Buisson, M.P.; "Women and the Future of the Race," by Jean Finot; "The Woman Citizen," by Jules Bois; "The I.W.S.A. as a Teacher of Languages," by Rosika Schwimmer; and letters from d'Estournelles de Constant, Baroness Suttner, Olive Schreiner, and Hedwig Dohm. French and English editions of this number, which celebrates the tenth anniversary of the Alliance, are to be sold at Rome at the quinquennial Congress of the International Council of Women.

The Optimist.—An interesting article by Mrs. Fitzroy Hecht, entitled "The Unknown Quantity."

Some Recent Books.

WEALTH. By Edwin Cannan, M.A., LL.D. (King.)

Professor Cannan explains in a preface that "the really fundamental questions of economics are why all of us, taken together, are as well off—or as ill off, if that way of putting it be preferred—as we are, and why some of us are much better off and others much worse off than the average." It is on these lines that he has treated the subject of wealth. The book includes several important matters which are not usually dealt with in general treatises, unless they are of considerable length. Among these may be mentioned one of special interest to women—the question of the inferiority of women's earnings.

"Whether," writes Professor Cannan, "a child is born to parents who are well-to-do or to parents who are poor, it is an economic advantage to be born a boy rather than a girl." He considers that the disparity of incomes between the sexes is one of the "most prominent features of the distribution of incomes," and gives as one of the chief reasons for this inequality "the restrictions which prevent women from entering many occupations in which they could, if allowed to compete, succeed better than they do at present in occupations in which they are allowed."

Professor Cannan also makes the following suggestions:—

"Besides enlargement of the field in which women can be employed, there are two other important ways in which their earnings might be raised. First, the opinion of the consumer about the comparative quality of things produced by men and things produced by women might be modified in a direction favourable to women. At present, for example, many 'consumers' of the service of waiting at table appear to regard the service as superior when performed by a waiter, even if the waitress handles an equal number of dishes with equal dexterity and dispatch. Opinions—or prejudices—such as these are clearly as capable of being changed as opinions about the beauty of tight or loose skirts, or tall hats and bowlers. . . . Girls as a rule do not have so much spent upon them as boys. If they were better fed and trained, their output would be bigger than it now is in occupations in which they compete with men: their average earnings in such occupations would rise more nearly to that of men, and their improved prospects here would relieve the pressure on the special fields in which women only are employed because they are superior to men. . . .

"The disparity of incomes between the sexes is one of the most prominent features in the inequality of the distribution of income."

WOMEN IN SEVEN PROFESSIONS. By Edith J. Morley. (Routledge. 6s.)

A survey of the economic conditions and prospects for women in Teaching, Medicine and Surgery, Nursing (including midwifery and massage), work as Sanitary Inspectors, and Health Visitors, as Civil Servants, as Clerks and Secretaries, and on the Stage. The book has been edited by the studies committee of the Fabian Women's Group, and is the result of most careful and thorough research. It contains a more complete survey of the work and opportunities of women in the occupations named—and of the training necessary for each—than has hitherto appeared, and should be read by all who are interested in the progress which women are making in the professional world. Among so much that is interesting, it is difficult to single out a few passages for quotation. It would be easy to select hundreds that give food for thought. The book is invaluable as a work of reference.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. Cecil Chapman. (Woman Citizen Series. Second Edition. David Nutt. 2s. 6d.)

Mr. Chapman gives the arguments for and against Indissolubility of Marriage, and advocates certain reforms in the Divorce Law which his experience as a magistrate has led him to regard as essential in the interest of national morality. He points out that the members of the Royal Commission on Divorce and Matrimonial Causes have reported, by a majority of nine to three, in favour of reforms similar to those advocated by himself.

List of Books Received.

THE EMANCIPATION OF ENGLISH WOMEN. By W. L. Blease. (Second Edition. Published by the National Political League. 3s. 6d.)

PIONEER WORK FOR WOMEN. By Elizabeth Blackwell, with an Introduction by Mrs. Fawcett. (Everyman's Library. Dent. 1s.)

WHAT IT MEANS TO MARRY; OR YOUNG WOMEN AND MARRIAGE. By Dr. Mary Scharlieb. (Cassell. 2s. 6d. net.)

PREPARATION FOR MARRIAGE. By Walter Heape, M.A., F.R.S. (Cassell. 2s. 6d. net.)

CHILD LABOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. By Frederic Keeling. (King. 7s. 6d.)

DAMAGED GOODS. A Play by Brieux. Translated by John Pollock, with a Preface by Bernard Shaw and a Foreword by Mrs. Bernard Shaw. (A. C. Fifield, 13, Clifford's Inn, E.C. 1s. net.)

TIGER. By Witter Bynner. (Rider. 1s. net.)

PHILIP'S WIFE. A Play by Frank G. Layton, M.R.C.S. (A. C. Fifield. 1s. net.)

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Correspondence.

[Correspondents are urged to write briefly, as we receive each week a greater number of letters than we can possibly print. They are also warned to write on one side of a page only. Letters with writing on both sides must in future be consigned to the waste-paper basket.]

THE EDUCATIONAL LADDER.

MADAM,—A number of articles and letters have recently appeared in your columns dealing with the question of education, especially in connection with school-leaving age and vocational training, and the relation of these to the duties and happiness of the citizen. There are one or two considerations bearing on these points which I think are apt to be forgotten, and with your permission I will draw attention to them.

To clear the issue I will begin by expressing my fullest sympathy with the root-idea behind the letters and articles referred to, viz., "La Carrière ouverte aux Talents." No enlightened person would for a moment question that proposition, and we have attained so far in the march of progress that prejudice can no longer prevail upon educational bodies so far as to combat it; it is the general rule to provide opportunity, whether sufficient or not I do not pretend to decide, but at any rate many opportunities are provided for children from humble homes to get a good secondary education. My own experience has been that often more opportunities are provided than there are fit subjects for, and scholarships are frequently bestowed in very unsuitable cases, simply because there is a scarcity of suitable ones. It is, in fact, the talent very often, and not the opening, which is lacking. Many enthusiasts forget that before advanced education is universal, the human material for it to work upon must be immensely improved. There is much facile eloquence expended on the idea of the "educational ladder," as if it were not apparent that a large proportion of those who even now attend the Universities are incapable of using the opportunities which the Universities offer. The fact that we already have a class of young men who waste their time there is a poor reason for claiming that doubtful privilege for all. This sort of talk is unsound, and rests on the false assumption that every child is capable of benefiting from secondary education, whereas the fact is that a very large number soon reach the limit beyond which no more "book-learning" can be assimilated. Keep boys and girls at school till they are sixteen, well and good, if you teach them something capable of developing their mind and character But keep them all at school with the idea of persisting in making them all learn, say, a modern language, or mathematics, or any other branch of study requiring much mental ability, and you turn many a bright though unbookish child into a stupid dunce. It is this consideration, and not the desire to make a *class* of manual workers, which is behind the movement in favour of manual or technical training in the last year of elementary school life. Yet one is regarded as a heretic in certain quarters if one advocates a year's training in housewifery as the last year's school course for girls; one is supposed to have as one's ulterior object the providing of a class of domestic servants, leaving on one side the obvious reply that if girls do not want to be domestic servants a year's training will not compel them into that walk of life! Surely it must be admitted that one of the weak spots in the lives of our humbler working class is inefficiency of the wife and mother in the duties which fall to her lot. I hold that these duties are not in themselves either mean, or servile, or narrowing. I hold that the work of a wife and mother not only gives opportunities for the noblest kind of service, but is far more educational than most outside work which women of the working-class would take up in its place. The drawback is not in the nature of the work, but in the conditions under which it is performed. Given on the one hand decent means with which to conduct the economy of the home, and on the other fit preparation for its exercise, surely most women would choose it, with all its variety and all its possibilities, to the alternative of going out to factory or workshop, leaving the home to be organised and run by strangers!

Co-operation is a great saver of labour, but even labour-saving can be carried too far. There is some work which has been done before by countless millions, and will be done by millions more, work in which those millions "must find their happiness or not at all."

To come to the practical issue. It is my opinion that every girl-pupil in an elementary school—it is far more important than for the secondary schools, into which, be it noted, the mentally gifted from the elementary schools are early drafted—should have one year's *unbroken* tuition in housewifery, not to fit her to do other people's work, but to fit her to do her own.

E. WALFORD COMMON.

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT.

MADAM,—Your note on this Bill is inaccurate in one respect. It is proposed by the Bill to extend the time during which a charge may be brought from six months to twelve. This is to be effected by amending Clause 27 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, 1904, by which the three months originally limited by the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1885, was extended to six months.

In dealing with these matters, which are really vital to the race in general and to women in particular, we have to be thankful for very small mercies very gradually received.

ARCHIBALD J. ALLEN.

[We are glad, indeed, to know that this Bill proposes to extend the time during which a charge may be brought, and admit readily that in this matter reformers have to be thankful for any kind of advance.—ED., C.C.]

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THE ROKEBY VENUS.

MADAM,—May I point out to you that your statement concerning me and my recent action lacks logic.

You state that I said there is "but one Mrs. Pankhurst," and that you wish to remind me there is "but one Velasquez." If you are referring to the artist himself your statement is absurd, because I did not kill him; if you are referring to the picture, you are following in the Government's footsteps, by comparing the value of a human life to a canvas picture. Comparing Mrs. Pankhurst to five by seven square feet of symbolism—do you not see the lack of logic in your sneer at my effort to point out this very principle?

MARY RALEIGH RICHARDSON.

[*Our point was that it was impossible to replace a Velasquez picture without also replacing Velasquez. It is as difficult to do this as to replace Mrs. Pankhurst. And the thing Miss Richardson attempted to destroy is not, as her letter suggests, merely seven square feet of canvas or of symbolism. It was a bit of the soul of Velasquez, to produce which the artist must give blood and tears. If the destruction of this work would save a human life, it must be destroyed, and doubtless Velasquez himself would applaud the act; but to destroy what means so much to human life—to destroy a thing of beauty—out of revenge is not justifiable. Miss Richardson can hardly have persuaded herself that Mrs. Pankhurst would be released an hour sooner if the whole of the National Gallery had been destroyed; but Mrs. Pankhurst was being hurt and therefore her followers hurt other people. Is that a right motive for destroying even seven square feet of canvas? We have no desire to sneer at Miss Richardson, and we trust she will believe that we had not when we wrote the paragraph she complains of.*—ED., C.C.]

FLOGGING CLAUSES OF THE CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT ACT.

MADAM,—There is another side of the flogging question to be considered. It has been clearly shown by Mr. Tighe Hopkins, in his book on penal reform (Wards of the State), that flogging has never been of the slightest use in deterring crime, which has but flourished the more under its action. This is proved by statistics. Apart, therefore, from any humane reason, it is certainly senseless to have recourse to a system which can but brutalize not only the flogged, but the flogger. What type of man must he be who will consent to take a wage for drawing blood from the back of a fellow-creature, bound and helpless before him? Miss Macleod-Cavey writes contemptuously of "sentiment," but it is common sense to suppose that you can make a man decent by whipping him? or to suppose that the more brutal type of man will fear degradation? Surely, the lower down he is in the human scale, the less he minds being degraded, and the less he feels pain.

MAY L. PENDERED.

MADAM,—*Re* letter in your issue, April 17th, signed Beatrice Macleod-Cavey, on "Flogging Clauses of the Criminal Law Amendment Act." Why not let them be flogged? Is not a man hanged not so much to pay the penalty of his crime, as to prevent other murders being committed?

ETHEL T. HALL.

[*Modern opinion is surely moving in the direction of reformatory rather than retaliatory or deterrent punishment. And our correspondent ignores the effect of flogging on the flogger.*—ED., C.C.]

BLOOD-STAINED FEATHERS OR A VOTE.

MADAM,—It appears from the report of the last meeting of the Committee to consider the Plumage Bill, that the supporters of the plume-traffic now hope to utilise the Woman's Suffrage movement to impede legislation which all humane women must desire. This ludicrous proposal to offer blood-stained feathers as a sop to rational beings who demand Paliamentary enfranchisement for serious reasons, is only fitted for a place in the annals of an "Alice Through the Looking-Glass" House of Assembly, or the pages of an early-Victorian "Punch."

ELLA FULLER MAITLAND.

"GHOSTS."

Magnificent—but dreadful, was the prevailing feeling on witnessing the performance of Ibsen's "Ghosts," arranged by the New Constitutional Society (under the organisation of Mr. J. T. Grien) on Sunday last, at the Court Theatre.

The story, told with a directness and simplicity that is compelling, is the old story of the "sins of the fathers, &c.," the full significance of which is perhaps only to-day being realised. The play was splendidly acted all round, but special mention must be made of the remarkably fine performances of Miss Bessie Hatton and Mr. Leon Quartermaine. The poignant scene between mother and son in the second act, when the wretched boy tells his mother of the doctor's report of his illness, reached a very high art; and the powerful last scene, when the boy's awful dread materialises, and we saw him become a helpless imbecile before our eyes, was a wonderful piece of acting. The mother's agony of indecision, as to whether or not to keep her promise to her son to give him the poison in the event of the fatal attack—the end being left in doubt as the curtain goes down—was finely portrayed by Miss Hatton.

"THE PATIENCE OF THE SEA."

The next venture of the "Pioneer Players" will be a performance to be given at the Ambassadors Theatre on Sunday next of Conoc O'Riordan's "Patience of the Sea." Miss Gertrude Kingston will appear in this play, supported by Messrs. Harcourt Williams and Basil Hallam. There will also be a public performance on Monday next, at 3 p.m., for which tickets may be obtained at the office of the Pioneer Players, 139, Long Acre, W.C

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager*, The Common Cause, 2, *Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

Notice.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* The Common Cause.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

Spirits in Prison.*

One of the most interesting of the books recently produced by the Suffrage Movement has been Lady Constance Lytton's "Prisons and Prisoners." It is impossible not to be moved by its directness and simplicity. Nor, surely, can any reader, however Anti-Suffragist, fail to marvel at a system which condemns such a spirit to Holloway.

Lady Constance Lytton tells us she had always been interested in "prisons and prisoners," and when she became a militant Suffragist, and considered the question of volunteering for a deputaton, on which she hoped to be arrested, she had to bear in mind that her desire to know what prison and prisoners were like, might be over-influencing her judgment. Her account of the conditions of imprisonment will, we cannot help hoping, make many realise how stupid and wasteful cruelty is. It is not the sense of physical suffering that afflicts one most, though that, also, is always present, and sometimes, in the case of forcible feeding, is not less than torture. But that which oppresses the imagination of the reader is not cruelty so much as inhumanity—"the expense of spirit in a waste of shame." The attitude of those in authority towards their charges is one of unintelligent and, in a sense, brutal coercion. We say "in a sense," because often there was no intention of being brutal; but the assumption that prisoners are "all bad" belongs not only to the chaplain whom Lady Constance Lytton quotes: it penetrates the whole prison system. Prisoners are handled roughly, or, at least, discourteously—for a push is a discourtesy when a word would suffice—apparently because it is less trouble to push than to speak to a person who has no human rights. The sense of indignity and outrage which this creates is easily understood. It implies so much! It sets one so intolerably apart from one's fellows, who are still good enough and intelligent enough to understand speech! Lady Constance Lytton describes the way in which wardresses and others (if they must speak) speak to prisoners without looking at them; and how, when a pathetic cry came from an old woman during the preaching of a sermon—"Oh, sir, don't be so hard on us!"—the interrupter was at once led out, and the sermon proceeded as if no interruption had taken place.

It is, perhaps, vain to expect that such coercion should provoke anything in return but a desire to coerce. And so from this gentlest of prisoners comes the cry—"*Now, when these promises have all been broken, women have taken to burning empty houses. . . . Yes; and they will burn buildings until they are treated rationally, as an equal part of the human race.*" So do we tread again the vicious circle. Men have coerced women, and women will seek to coerce men. Must it be so? In that case, suffering has taught women very little. The whole moral of this story of prisons and prisoners is that men and women will not be taught to behave rationally by being treated irrationally. They may be prevented by sheer force of prison bolts and bars from hurting Society—for a time. But the mind is untouched, except it be degraded; it is not, and it cannot be, raised to "rational" conduct by coercion.

* *Prisons and Prisoners.* By Lady Constance Lytton. Heinemann, pp. x.; 337. 3s. 6d. net.

There is a sense in which we, living in time, may possess the future, and conquer the unconquerable past. Nothing, indeed, can alter the things that have been done. Nothing can blot out the record of oppression of the weak by the strong. The fact that men have exploited women, like the fact that the rich have exploited the poor, is part of human history, and remains. But there is yet a sense in which we can conquer history and force it into service; a sense in which we can make it mean what we choose. Women may reflect on their crippled sisters in China, on their outcast sisters at home, and be filled with a burning resentment and conviction that human beings who have inflicted or permitted such horrors are fit for nothng but coercion, and can be moved only by being hurt and wounded. Or, still reflecting on these same iniquities, they may be moved to an infinite pity, and swear that they will willingly hurt no one. Since it hurts so much—so almost intolerably much—to be bullied and coerced and despised, why not refuse to retaliate? To understand is the greatest of all rewards; but if we understood we should not dream that those who break promises will be reformed by burning even empty houses.

The author of " Prisons and Prisoners " has understood the very heart of prisoners in material prisons. It was not she who helped them, she tells us, but they who helped her. They could not help her in any material sense, but they helped her to much understanding, and her counsel to them in return is of the noblest. But we are all prisoners, and there are other prisons than Holloway. We are in bondage to tradition, custom, convention, to our human limitations, to the past. Indeed it is a human condition from which the bravest and freest escape only in degree. Nevertheless, we are not, any more than those in Holloway, " all bad," and because we are not we react disastrously to coercion. Certain kinds of punishment degrade the punished; but it is just because they are still too fine for that kind of punishment. The very fact that it has a brutalising effect proves that those on whom it was tried were meant for something better, would have responded to something more humane. If otherwise, coercion would not morally have hurt them. But human nature always reacts against the assumption that it is " all bad."

The question is—how shall we react? If we strike where we have been struck, and burn down houses when promises are broken, we do, indeed, what history has taught us; and we are conquered by the past. But if we wrest from our imprisonment the power to understand all prisoners—even politicians—even Anti-Suffragists—we force the past into the service of the future, and conquer unconquerable facts.

The Civil Service and Women.

The significance of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service is likely to be misinterpreted by people who do not examine carefully not only the signatures appended to it, but also the " reservations " or points upon which various signatories have carefully withheld their agreement. Such an examination reveals the curious facts that the Majority Report, in its entirety, represents the views of one only out of the sixteen persons who have set their names to it, and that, with the exception of the Chairman, every member of the Commission differs from some one or more of its findings.

From Section X. of the Report, which deals with the Employment of Women, eight of the sixteen signatories record their dissent, and from one paragraph, to which we will return later, nine. Section X. opens with a rough statement of the numbers of women employed by the State in industrial, domestic, clerical, official, and other work. In some instances such terms are used as " many," " some," " about," " more than "; and after making a moderate allowance for these uncertain groups, we find that, including unestablished workers, the total can hardly fall below 65,000, and may perhaps considerably exceed that number. It is, therefore, by no means a small army of women which receives its pay from the Treasury of Great Britain—in other words, from the taxpayer.

The Report lays down, very properly, the principle that: " the sole object of recruitment should be to provide the most efficient public service possible, consistently with economy on the one hand, and satisfactory conditions of labour on the other." The wording of this principle will be accepted by almost every employer in the country; but the term " economy " will be interpreted very variously. To one man " economy " means getting workers who will accept very small pay; to another it means giving such good pay and such comfortable conditions as will make each worker a better human being, and, therefore, a more productive instrument. The influence of these divergent interpretations may be traced in the mental attitudes of several of the Commissioners, and on no topic do they come out more plainly than on the question of the work of women.

In considering this main principle the Report records the claim urged by some witnesses " that in recruiting the public service the difference of sex should be ignored." This claim the Report resists on the ground that it " presupposes the complete interchangeability of women with men in the Civil Service," whereas " the evidence shows that in power of sustained work, in the continuity of service, and in adaptability to varying service conditions, the advantage lies with men."

Now this is the statement from which no less than nine of the sixteen persons who signed the Majority Report record their dissent in the following terms:—

> " We believe that efficiency in clerical, as in other forms of labour, depends in part upon the food, housing, recreation, &c., &c., made possible by the salary paid. For this reason we think that no fair inference can be drawn as to the efficiency of the two sexes from a comparison between the work of the existing women clerks and that of male clerks enjoying much larger salaries. And we do not think that the evidence before us (in so far as it is based upon actual experience and not *à priori* consideration) justifies the statement, even in regard to existing facts, that 'in adaptability to varying service conditions, the advantage lies with men.'"

Members of the Commission who adhere to the opinion of the Majority Report are: Lord MacDonnell (Chairman), the Duke of Devonshire, Sir Donald MacAlister, Mr. S. J. G. Hoare, Mr. R. D. Holt, Mr. Percy E. Matheson, and Mr. A. E. Shipley; while those who dissent from it are: The Bishop of Southwark, Sir Kenneth Muir Mackenzie, Mr. Cecil Beck, Mr. J. R Clynes, Miss Haldane, Mr. Philip Snowden, Mrs. Deane Streatfield, and Mr. Graham Wallas. The three remaining Commissioners are those who signed the Minority Report: Sir Henry Primrose, Sir Guy Granet, and Mr. Alfred A. Booth. These gentlemen do not say that the evidence proves any difference between the working powers of men and women. But they do say that: " All experience, we believe, goes to prove that, from various causes leading to less continuity and concentration of exertion, a woman's output of work in a given time is generally less than that of a man." They do not, however, quote any single instance in which men employed at the same or closely similar work, and paid at the same rate, have produced a greater output in the same time than women. Such cases are, of course, not common. There are, however, two examples, both in the Civil Service, in which women and men have been employed in practically the same work, *i.e.*, in factory inspection and in typing, although in both cases the women have been paid considerably less. In the former instance it cannot, I think, be denied by any honest observer that the women have, in fact, done better than the men. Their record, indeed, has been one of which all women may be proud. Their superiority, however, has been probably due to somewhat exceptional circumstances, and women would do wrong to build upon it any assertion of general superiority. The other instance is that of typists. More than one witness declared that men typists had been found unsatisfactory, and been superseded by women who do better, but who, nevertheless, are paid at much lower rates.

As to the improvement in physical condition (and therefore, of course, in power of work) produced in women by better feeding (and in the natural course better feeding is a result of better pay), the evidence of the Deputy-chief Cashier of the Bank of England is very illuminating. When some twenty years ago the Bank began to employ women, " a very large proportion were invalided on account of various nervous complaints;" several medical practitioners of specialised experience were consulted, " and the conclusion eventually arrived at was that the women did not take sufficient nourishment in the middle of the day, with the result the Bank were induced to provide them with free luncheon . . . and we have had much less sickness since." Clearly it is not fair to compare women whose salary is small enough to induce undue thrift in food with men receiving double or more than double as much. The sane conclusion is that we do not know and cannot know for at least another couple of generations whether there are any general natural differences between men and women in power of work. At present we can but remark that, before the Civil Service Commission, those witnesses who had most personal contact with women were, on the whole, perceptibly less sure of the existence of any difference, while those who were surest regarded the fact rather as admitted than as requiring the test of experiment.

The existence of such a difference is the main argument of persons who believe that men as men should be paid at a higher rate than women. But even those persons who fully believe that, in the words of the Majority Report, " Women's services are (subject to exceptions which in the higher branches are

important) less efficient on the whole than those of men," are willing to declare that the inequality of pay should not be greater than the inequality of efficiency. The Majority Report recommends that " in so far as the character and conditions of the work performed by women . . . approximate to identity with the character and conditions of the work performed by men, the pay of women should approximate to equality with men."

That declaration of principle is really a verdict in favour of " Equal pay for equal work." What remains for women is to show that on equal terms they are equally efficient—or, more probably that in some departments they are more, and in some less efficient.

On the important question of compulsory retirement at marriage—which, of course, creates an artificial diminution of value by tending to abbreviate the period of employment—the Majority Report is conservative; " the majority of us . . . believe that the responsibilities of married life are normally incompatible with the devotion of a woman's whole-time and unimpaired energy to the Public Service." Eight members of the Commission (those already named, as making a reservation, with the exception of Mr. Boutwood) believe " that there are many cases . . . in which the enforcement of this rule would act to the public disadvantage." The three signatories of the Minority Report do not deliver any opinion upon the point.

Nobody seems to have considered the far-reaching social effects of the restriction. If the Civil Service contains, at present, from 6,000 to 7,000 women, and if the number is likely to be largely increased, if (as is, of course, the case) the restriction has spread from the Government to the Municipal service and now applies to sanitary inspectors, health visitors, to many teachers, and to a considerable body of other employees, we find ourselves faced by battalions of spinster officials. Compulsory retirement on marriage means that something near a million of women are constantly confronted by loss of the occupation for which they have fitted themselves if they marry. Moreover, these are women of whom probably all have passed a medical examination, and are therefore healthy; most have satisfied an educational test, and are therefore rather above than below the ordinary level of intelligence, and the immense majority have entered employment before the age of one-and-twenty. If the regulation acts as a bar to marriage on the part of these picked women—and that it does, to some extent, do so is pretty clearly proved by the annual marriage rate among women in the Post Office, which is but 2 to 3 per cent.—public authorities should surely consider much more seriously than they appear to have done the effect upon national life of that regulation which they are so ready to impose upon a sex not their own. It seems reasonable to believe—with the British law—that restraint of marriage is, as a general principle, contrary to public policy.

The Report recommends that a " special section should be created within the Treasury for the general supervision and control of the Civil Service," but omits to mention the desirability of including women members in that special section. The same eight members of the Commission who demur to a rigid rule of retirement at marriage, point out how necessary is the presence of at least one woman upon that authority. I would venture to add that not only is it necessary to have at least one woman member, but that it is necessary to have in that position one woman (or more) possessing considerable acquaintance with the conditions of the public service and of a character and resolution to give her opinions weight and make her influence valid. Well-meaning ladies of no public experience or accustomed, in the amenities of private life, never openly to maintain their own opinions against those of their neighbours, will not do.

Last of all, I should like to express a hope that when next women are included as members of any public enquiry, their names will be placed in their proper alphabetical position and not relegated in every list, from the Royal Summons to the signatures of the smallest reservation, to a place at the foot, after that of every man.

Clementina Black.

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BY-ELECTIONS IN GRIMSBY & N. E. DERBYSHIRE

By the death of Sir George Doughty, on April 27th, a by-election will be necessary at Grimsby. At time of going to press, the candidates have not been definitely selected. The results of the last two elections have been as follows :—

1906.—Sir G. Doughty (U.)		6,349
H. H. Haldinstein (L.)		4,040
T. Proctor (Lab.)		2,248
Unionist majority over Liberal		2,309
Jan. 1910.—Tom Wing (L.)		7,772
Sir G. Doughty (U.)		7,450
Liberal majority		322
Dec. 1910.—Sir G. Doughty (U.)		7,903
Tom Wing (L.)		7,205
Unionist majority		698

Another Parliamentary vacancy is caused by the death of Mr. W. E. Harvey, Labour member for N.E. Derbyshire. Mr. Harvey had represented the constituency since 1907, the results of the last two elections were :—

Jan. 1910.—W. E. Harvey (Lab.)	8,715
Dr. Court (C.)	6,411
Majority	2,304
Dec. 1910.—W. E. Harvey (Lab.)	7,838
Dr. Court (C.)	6,088
Majority	1,750

Both sides are unprepared for an election, and the choice of candidates is uncertain. Mr. James Martin, president of the Derbyshire Miners' Association, and Mr. Frank Hall, its financial secretary, have been mentioned as possible Labour candidates.

BIRMINGHAM SUFFRAGE STALL.

The Birmingham Society think that it may interest readers of The Common Cause to hear about the Suffrage Stall they are holding at the annual Bingley Hall Trades' Exhibition, which was formally opened on Monday afternoon, March 23rd, by the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, who, after the opening, visited the Stall and took some literature. The exhibition will remain open till May 31st. During the first fortnight six new members were enrolled, and over 224 " Friends " signed cards, many of them men who have signified their willingness to ask questions at meetings. A fair amount of literature was sold, of course including The Common Cause, and a great deal of free literature distributed.

Amongst the many visitors to the Stall have been people from New Zealand, Australia, Norway, Roumania, Canada, Damascus, and the States. The Stall is the outcome of an idea of a member of the Birmingham Society, and bids fair to be an excellent piece of propaganda work, inasmuch as the exhibition has been visited during the first fortnight by 60,000 people. The manager told one of the ladies at the Stall that at first the other Stall-holders were not at all favourably disposed towards the idea of a Suffrage Stall being held, but many of them are now quite interested, and he thought the Stall was having a good influence, and making an impression.

Obituary.

A great spirit has passed away from us—that of Miss A. J. Coles, one of the original members of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Her work and influence were of the greatest, and as an ardent Suffragist, she was able to penetrate and understand the motives which underlie the methods of some who uphold militancy, though she was herself never a militant. If she did not come forward on public platforms, she inspired all who came in contact with her with her great knowledge of the meaning and progress of the movement, her faith in God, and in ultimate victory. She had the patience which is necessary to all great achievement, and uncommon naturabilities, combined with a delightful sense of humour, which could enliven and penetrate the very dullest of minds. As she advanced in life, circumstances made it easier for her to devote time more freely to the Suffrage cause, and the loss of her work amongst the poor in Bermondsey is incalculable. She once said that one of the happiest experiences of her life was on the day when she was first able to go out into the streets and sell The Common Cause, and to the very last she expressed great joy at the prospect of returning health, with its promise of further service to the cause. Miss Coles was the friend of men as well as of women, and perhaps some of the best acts of her beautiful life can best be told by men.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

WOMAN'S KINGDOM.

A MESSAGE OF THANKS.

The Exhibition closed on Thursday night, and it only remains now to thank the small army of people who worked so hard through a very strenuous period. There are far too many people who helped us to be mentioned by name, but special thanks are due to the honorary officials and their capable staffs of assistants. Miss Kelsall's task began many weeks before the Exhibition opened, and she and Mrs. Lawrence, her second in command, have had the most arduous work of all our many helpers. To them, and to the small army of volunteer commissionaires, cashiers, and assistants under their leadership, the whole Exhibition owes a deep debt of gratitude.

The Common Cause sellers, under the able leadership of Miss Gosse, who is also organising the street selling in London, worked splendidly, and we are sure they have done a great deal towards increasing the circulation of the paper. The Common Cause lounge, of which Miss Gosse was in charge, was greatly appreciated by visitors.

Miss Vaughan Jenkins was indefatigable in advertising the Exhibition, especially by means of decorated brakes, an illustration of which appears on this page.

Miss Willis, Miss Joseph, Miss Coleman, Mr. Baker, and other members of the Suffrage Atelier have been indefatigable. The Atelier's task did not end with the decorations. Its members have kept an eagle eye on every corner of the great gallery, which bristled with Suffrage posters, and every coign of vantage, upstairs and downstairs, was occupied by some advertisement of Woman's Kingdom and its attractions, or of the Suffrage question in one of its many aspects. Ugly corners were beautified, and empty spaces filled, scratch entertainments and attractions organised, poster parades undertaken, and thousands of leaflets distributed.

Miss Dorothy Courtney has had another long and heavy job, and not content with organising the Arts and Crafts Section of the show, has done an enormous amount of work in various other departments. Miss Hibbert-Ware has worked indefatigably over the lantern lectures, and so have Mrs. Meeson Coates over the Fine Arts Section, and Mrs. W. N. Shaw over the Photographic Salon. The Actresses' Franchise League have worked magnificently under the very greatest difficulties, and any organiser would be envious of the way in which they took over a big task and made themselves responsible for every detail connected with their department. Miss Edith Craig deserves a special vote of thanks, for she had organised a series of wonderful shows, which could not be given, and instead of counting up the cost of her lost time and trouble, set to and helped us in all sorts of ways, such as poster parading and selling tickets. Mr. Jack Cheape should also have a vote of thanks all to himself, for he worked at all sorts of jobs, like a navvy, from early morning to late at night, for days and days on end.

Our exhibitors cannot be too much thanked. It is the exhibitors who make a show, and the National Union has special cause to be grateful to the exhibitors in Woman's Kingdom—both to those who organised sections, to those who rented space, and also to those who organised demonstrations, chief among whom should be mentioned Madame Edith Garrud, and the girls of the Crouch End High School, whose energy, good nature, and skill has been the wonder of the Exhibition.

The staff deserves a special word of thanks as well. Exhibition work is strenuous, and Exhibition hours are long. Both during the three months of preparatory work, and during the show itself, the various members of the staff have given splendid help and untiring Service. And lastly, we thank our advertisers, both in the souvenir and the special Exhibition numbers of The Common Cause. To everybody who has helped us in any way, we are extremely grateful.

V. C. C. Collum.

DESIGN FOR STAINED GLASS WINDOW BY MARGARET I. CHILTON.

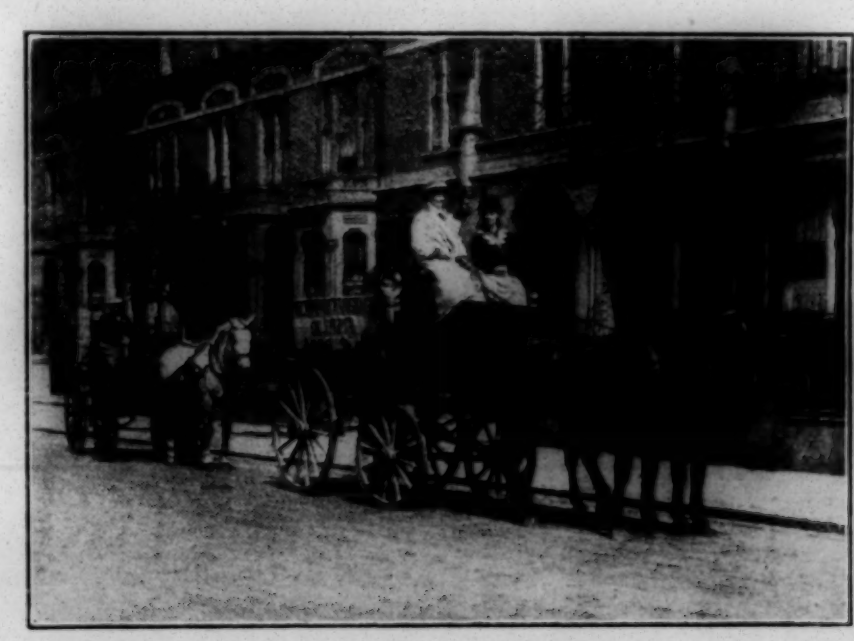

Photo by Tella Camera Co.
ADVERTISING "WOMAN'S KINGDOM.

SOME OF THE EXHIBITS.

Although each week we have devoted space to a description of certain features of "Woman's Kingdom," we have not even yet been able to cover the ground fully. We omitted, for example, in the paragraph published last week on "Women in Professions," to mention the stand of Miss Fuller (of 52, New Bond Street) who acts as advertisement and insurance agent, a somewhat novel occupation for women. Miss Fuller acts as agent more particularly for papers interested in the Suffrage, and gives special attention to the advertisements of professional women who have hitherto not been particularly catered for by agents.

In the educational section, Mrs. Richmond, of White House School, South Hampstead, explained the advantages of co-education.

Among labour-saving devices may be mentioned, in addition to those touched upon in our last article on this subject, a liquid metal cleanser, demonstrations in the use of which were given by a representative of Harcourt Lawes, some excellent specialities of C. W. Armitage for cleaning fabrics, leather, &c., and an express water boiler, by the Martin Engineering Co. Ltd.

In the dress section were to be seen exhibits by several of our advertisers, including Miss Mora Puckle, who showed some charming, and at the same time practical, embroidered walking costumes, and Madame Charlton, who showed specimens of her dainty gowns and lingerie. Miss Joan Drew also exhibited some characteristically well-cut boots, shoes, and slippers, together with embroidered shoe bags, buckles, &c.

Very useful to Suffragists for preparing announcements, &c., are the stencils of Mr. A. Farrington, of which some excellent examples were shown.

During the Exhibition lantern demonstrations were given by Messrs. Bash & Co.—who showed scientific dental and toilet preparations at Stand 133—illustrating the progress of dental *caries*, when proper care is not taken of the teeth, and suitable antiseptic preparations used.

SELLING THE "COMMON CAUSE."

Now that the Exhibition is over, volunteers are urgently needed for selling The Common Cause in the streets. The Exhibition has, we hope, done something to increase its circulation; but we want to make it far better known among the general public, who are everywhere being invited to buy the organ of the militant organisation.

Volunteers are asked to communicate with Miss Gosse, at the office of the London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W., giving particulars of the time which they are prepared to devote. Though sellers willing to devote a regular time weeky. to pushing the National Union's organ are especially needed, volunteers for occasional work will always be warmly welcomed. So provincial members visiting London are invited to offer their services, if they have a few odd hours to spare.

Support our Advertisers. **Our readers are earnestly requested to support the Advertisers in the paper. Only firms of the highest repute are accepted by us, and if all readers will deal exclusively with them, it will materially help *The Common Cause*.**

THE PRIDE OF ITALY

OPSO

GENUINE PARMA VIOLET SCENT

Distilled and Bottled at Parma.

4/6 7/6 10/6

This perfect scent, with many others, will be exhibited at our

Stand No. 128,

Gallery, at the Children's Welfare Exhibition, Olympia.

We shall also show the OPSO CREAMS, FACE POWDERS, &c. and the C.&T. SALUTIS SOAPS.

Dainty Samples can be obtained.

We shall welcome all callers.

IF DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING WRITE—

BODDINGTON & KUTASSY,

34-36, Oxford Street, London, W.

Call and see us at the "Woman's Kingdom" Exhibition.

WOMAN'S KINGDOM

AT

OLYMPIA, April 11th to 30th.

St. Ivel

LIMITED

YEOVIL, SOMERSET.

Exhibiting at STAND No. 8.

Visitors to Woman's Kingdom are cordially invited to inspect the exhibit of St. Ivel Lactic Cheese, Ivelcon, St. Ivel Veal and Ham Pies, and to take advantage of the Special Offer mentioned below.

SPECIAL SAMPLE OFFER

TO READERS OF "THE COMMON CAUSE."

CUT OUT THIS COUPON AND PRESENT IT AT STAND No. 8.

Readers of the "Common Cause," who hand in this coupon at the St. Ivel Stand No. 8, will be given in exchange a complimentary sample of St. Ivel Lactic Cheese, packed in a dainty carton of the Union colours.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss K. D. Courtney.
Miss C. E. Marshall (Parliamentary).
Miss Emily M. Leaf (Press).
Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Auerbach.

Secretary:
Miss Crookenden.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Report of Literature Department.

In a new pamphlet, "Unfulfilled Pledges, our case against Mr. Asquith" (A. 103), the recent political history of the Suffrage movement is set forth most clearly and convincingly. It has been issued at ½d. to permit of widespread distribution, and it is hoped that every Suffragist will assist in making it known to large numbers of electors before the General Election. Large books of labels in the colours, have sold well at "Woman's Kingdom," at 6d.; they contain two dozen tie-on labels with string and two dozen gummed labels.

Press Report.

We have to announce this week the first issue of the new monthly religious paper, the *Challenge*, which will appear on Friday, May 1st. We note that Miss A. M. Roydon is on the Advisory Committee. The paper aims at giving briefly, without party bias, news of the world in Church and State, and

"Special consideration will be given to three questions of supreme importance at the present juncture—The position of the laity, who have yet to enter upon their rightful heritage in the life and work of the Church; the urgent need of the reform of the Church's machinery and its adaptation to the requirements of the time; the wider recognition of women's contribution to the affairs of Church and State."

Miss Henderson (N.U.W.S.S.) replies in this week's *Saturday Review* to the articles on "The Problem of the Suffragist" and *Les Femmes qui Tuent*, by Monsieur Calmette.

The *Daily Citizen* is now devoting regular weekly space on Tuesdays to short articles on the Suffrage and kindred subjects.

Though the editorial policy of the *Times* still continues to be Anti-Suffrage, the Supplements published by experts who have studied the Woman's Question in other lands form some of the best propaganda obtainable.

The Supplement on Russia, April 27th, contains most valuable information on the Woman's struggle for Constitutional rights.

"Public opinion generally is on the side of the women. In the first two Dumas which were elected on a more democratic Franchise than the third and fourth, there was a majority in favour of Women's rights. It is an incontestable fact that the most influential section of the intelligentsia entirely sympathises with the idea that women should take an active part in Local Government and in general politics. Indeed, it could hardly do otherwise. The as yet very imperfect constitutional system which has been established in Russia with such extraordinary difficulty, and at the cost of such violent disturbances, is the result of the strenuous and combined efforts of men and women. The struggle lasted for decades, and from the very first women came forward prepared to sacrifice everything for the sacred cause of liberty."

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913 ...	1,721	7	6
Received, April 21st to 27th:—			
Subscriptions.			
Miss Margaret E. Smith ...		1	0
Miss Ursula Thompson ...	5	0	0
Mrs. G. Unwin	1	1	0
Mrs. James Briscoe		5	0
Miss F. M. F. Cooke		5	0
Miss C. H. Fleming		10	0
Mrs. Garrett		5	0
Miss E. M. Gardner	1	0	0
Donation.			
Mrs. Davidson	1	1	0
Miss E. M. Gardner (Election Fund)	1	0	0
Donations to Education Campaign.			
Mrs. Mary Green	1	0	0
Mrs. Tate		10	0
Affiliation Fees.			
Abergavenny W.S.S.		10	0
Wakefield W.S.S.	2	16	0
Darwen W.S.S.		15	0
South Wilts W.S.S.		12	6
Penzance W.S.S.		12	6
Sacriston W.S.S.		8	6
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Wallsend W.S.S.		9	6
Stranraer W.S.S. (additional)	1	10	0
Wallasey and Wirral W.S.S. (second instalment)	1	17	6
Newcastle W.S.S.	3	1	6
Birkenhead W.S.S.	1	5	0
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Wolverhampton W.S.S.	2	10	0
Solihull W.S.S.	2	5	9
Marple W.S.S.	1	4	9
Chinley and Chapel-en-le-Frith W.S.S.		5	0
Chelmsford and District W.S.S.		16	6
Blackburn W.S.S.		15	0
Whitehaven W.S.S.		8	0
Liverpool University W.S.S. ...		5	0
Normanton W.S.S.		12	6
Morpeth W.S.S.	1	2	6
Newport W.S.S.	3	15	0
Kettering W.S.S. (additional)		5	6
Blackhill and District W.S.S.		5	3
Marple W.S.S. (additional) ...		2	0
Rawtenstall and Waterfoot W.S.S.		11	6
Hucknall W.S.S.		10	0
Chesterfield W.S.S.		7	6
Carnarvon W.S.S.		12	6
Saltash W.S.S.		5	9
	£1,765	0	0

List of Societies and Federations in the N.U.W.S.S.

Federations, Hon. Secretaries and Key to Letters.

B Scottish.—Miss Elsie Inglis, M.B., C.M. *Office:* 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh. *Organising Sec.:* Miss Alice Crompton. *Area.*—All Scotland. 64 Societies.

C. **North Eastern.**—Miss Hardcastle, 3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. *Organising Sec.:* Miss Gordon. *Area.*—All Northumberland and Durham. 29 Societies.

D. **North Western.**—*Acting pro tem.*, Miss Millington, c/o N.U.W.S.S., 14, Gt. Smith St., Westminster, S.W. *Area.*—All Westmoreland, Cumberland, and in Lancs. the Divs. of North Lonsdale and Lancaster, and the Borough of Barrow. 21 Societies.

E. **North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.**—*Pro tem.*, Mrs. Cross, 2, Driffield Terrace, The Mount, York. *Area.*—N. and E. Ridings, and in Lincs., the Divs. of Brigg, Gt. Grimsby, and Louth. 16 Societies.

F. **West Riding of Yorkshire.**—The Secretary, Suffrage Office, 35, Park Square, Leeds. *Area.*—W. Riding, and Todmorden. 20 Societies.

G. **Manchester and District.**—The Secretary: Grosvenor Chambers, 16, Deansgate, Manchester. *Area.*—E. Lancs, the High Peak Div. of Derbyshire, all Cheshire (with the exception of the Wirral Div. and the Eddisbury Div. of Chester) and Todmorden in W. Riding. 40 Societies.

H. **West Lancs., West Cheshire, and N. Wales.**—Miss Jessie Beavan, 12, Ullet Road, Liverpool. *Area.*—West Lancs., the Wirral and Eddisbury Divs. of Cheshire, and in N. Wales the Counties of Anglesey, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery, Carnarvon. 27 Societies.

I **Midlands (East).**—Miss Maud Dowson, Sulney Fields, Upper Broughton, Melton Mowbray. *Area.*—The Counties of Notts, Derby (with the exception of the High Peak Div.), Leicester, Rutland, Northants, and in Lincs. the following Divs.—Lincoln, Grantham, Gainsboro', Horncastle, Sleaford, Stamford and the Burton Div. in Staffordshire. 20 Societies.

J. **Midlands (West).**—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss M. M. Williams, 19, Droitwich Road, Worcester. *Area.*—Worcestershire (with the exception of the constituencies of N. Worcestershire, Dudley, and that part of E. Worcestershire which lies within the area of Great Birmingham), Herefordshire, and Shropshire. 17 Societies.

K. **Central Counties.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Clinton Chance, 12, Arthur Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. *Area.*—Warwickshire, Staffordshire (with the exception of the Burton-on-Trent Div.), the constituencies of Dudley, N. Worcestershire, and that part of E. Worcestershire which lies within the area of Greater Birmingham. 18 Societies.

L. **Eastern Counties.**—Mrs. Vulliamy, Maitland House, Newnham, Cambridge. *Area.*—Cambs., Essex (with the exception of Romford and Walthamstow Divs.), Herts (with the exception of the Watford Div.), Hunts, Norfolk, Suffolk and the Spalding Div. of Lincs. including the Borough of Boston. 43 Societies.

M. **South Wales and Monmouthshire.**—Miss B. Foxley, M.A., Aberdare Hall, Cardiff. *Area.*—The Counties of Glamorgan, Brecon, Radnor, Carmarthen, Cardigan, and Pembroke in Wales, and Monmouth in England. 20 Societies.

N. **West of England.**—Miss Tanner, St. Ulrich, Downs Park West, Bristol. *Area.*—The Counties of Somerset, Gloucester, and Wilts. 32 Societies.

O. **Oxon, Berks, and Bucks.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Dunnell, Chesterton, Banbury. *Area.*—The Counties of Oxford, Berks, Bedford, and Bucks, and the Watford Div. of Herts and S. Northants. 28 Societies.

P. **South-Western.**—Miss Mathieson, M.A., Otterbourne, Budleigh Salterton. *Area.*—The Counties of Devon and Cornwall. 25 Societies.

Q. **Surrey, Sussex and Hants.**—Miss M. O'Shea, The Cottage, Cosham, Hants. Asst. Miss M. E. Verrall, The Lydd, West Hoathly, Sussex. *Area.*—The Counties of Surrey, Sussex and Hants, and the Isle of Wight. 45 Societies.

R. **Kentish.**—*Pro. tem.*, Miss Griffith Jones, 161, Ashley Gardens, S.W. *Area.*—Kent. 15 Societies.

S. Societies outside Federation Areas, 7.

The London Society.—Miss Phillippa Strachey, 58, Victoria Street. Number of Branches, 62.

TOTAL, **479.**

Societies.

G. **Accrington.**—Miss Constance Gertrude Bury, 14, Devonshire Street, Accrington.

F. **Ackworth.**—Miss Andrews, Ackworth School, Ackworth, near Pontefract.

L. **Aldeburgh.**—Mrs. Sharp, Whitebays, Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

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D. **Barrow-in-Furness.**—*Joint Secretaries:* Miss Watson, 28, Lincoln Street, Barrow-in-Furness, and Miss A. Shaw, 12, West View Road, Barrow-in-Furness.

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O. **Berkhamsted.**—Mrs. Stevenson, Glanmor, Doctors Commons Road, Berkhamsted.

O. **Berks (North).**—Miss Nora Marshall, 1, Castle Villas, Wallingford.

Q. **Bexhill.**—Miss Norton, Dalhousie, Buckhurst Road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

P. **Bideford.**—Mrs. Lightbody, Hazlehurst, Bideford.

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F. **Bingley.**—Miss Moulden, 100, Main Street, Bingley.

H. **Birkenhead and District.**—Miss A. Wyse, c/o Mrs. Urquhart, 23, Balfour Road, Oxton, Birkenhead.

K. **Birmingham.**—Mrs. Ring, 20, Easy Row, Birmingham.

C. **Birtley.**—Mrs. Johnson, Esk Terrace, Birtley, Co. Durham.

C. **Bishop Auckland.**—*The Secretary*, Kingsley Chambers, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham.

G. **Blackburn.**—Miss Frances Bell, 21, Oozebooth Terrace, Blackburn.

C. **Blackhill and Consett.**—Mrs. Jameson, 32, Roger Street, Blackhill.

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O. **Bracknell.**—Miss F. G. Bradford, Fir Cottage, Bracknell, Berks.

F. **Bradford.**—Mrs. James Riley, 2, Hollings Mount, Bradford. *All letters to:* Miss Ashby, 7, Belle Vue, Manningham, Bradford.

L. **Braintree.**—Miss M. R. Courtauld, Evegate, Bocking, Braintree, Essex.

G. **Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme.**—Miss G. M. Greenwood, Oak Croft, Cheadle Hulme.

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N. **Bridgwater.**—Mrs. Alice Corder, Silver Birch, Northfield, Bridgwater.

E. **Bridlington.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss F. Woodcock, 80, St. John's Street, Bridlington.

Q. **Brighton.**—Miss F. de G. Merrifield, 14, Clifton Terrace, Brighton.

N. **Bristol.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. W. C. H. Cross, Drayton, Beaufort Road, Clifton, Bristol. *Office*, 40, Park Street, Bristol.

N. **Bristol (East).**—Mrs. Bottomley, 606, Stapleton Road, Eastville, Bristol.

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L. **Bury St. Edmunds.**—Miss M. Wakefield, 79, Risbygate Street, Bury St. Edmunds.

Q **Buxted.**—Miss A. A. Cheape, Great Streele Farm, Framfield, Sussex.

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L. **Cambs. (West).**—Miss N. M. Gray, 9, Station Road, Cambridge.

L. **Cambridge University.**—

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Girton.—Miss Bradley, Girton College.

Old Students.—Miss Mackenzie, 7, Phœnix Lodge, Brook Green, W.

R. **Canterbury.**—Mrs. Harold Wacher, 72, St. Dunstans, Canterbury.

D. **Carlisle.**—Miss Bardsley, Stanwix, Carlisle, and Mrs. Campbell, 22, Warwick Square, Carlisle. *Branch:* Wigton.

D **Carnforth.**—Miss Edith Willis, Ormonde House, Carnforth.

G. **Cheadle.**—*Hon. Sec.: Pro. tem.*, Mrs. Parry, 277, Stockport Road, Cheadle Heath.

L. **Chelmsford.**—Miss Richenda Christy, Orchards, Broomfield, Chelmsford.

N. **Cheltenham.**—Miss Mills, Lowmandale, Leckhampton, Cheltenham.

H. **Chester.**—Miss Annie Adams, Shirley House, Liverpool Road, Chester.

I **Chesterfield.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Jessie Smith, Walton Rise, Chesterfield.

C. **Chester-le-Street.**—Miss Brook, 12, Avondale Terrace, Chester-le-Street.

H. **Chorley.**—Miss Stone, Adeath House, Ashfield Road, Chorley.

J. **Church Stretton.**—Miss Barnett, Coney Cottage, Church Stretton.

N. **Cinderford.**—Miss Stella Matthews, M.A., Higher Elementary School, Cinderford.

N. **Cirencester.**—Miss Grace Hadow, Foss Lodge, Cirencester.

N. **Clevedon.**—Miss Clayton, 2, Hallam Road, Clevedon, Somerset.

G. **Clitheroe.**—Mrs. Ward, 24, Garden Street, Nelson.

D. **Cockermouth.**—Miss Rachel Irwin, Shatton Hall, Nr. Cockermouth, Cumberland.

L. **Colchester and District.**—Miss Sweetlove, Great Horkesley, Colchester.

J. **Colwall.**—Miss Julia Holland, Brand Lodge, Upper Colwall, Malvern.

G. **Congleton.**—Miss L. Bennett, Marsh House, Astbury, Congleton.

D. **Coniston.**—Miss Mary Dixon, Latham House, The Square, Broughton-in-Furness.

K. **Coventry.**—Miss Rogers, 26, Trinity Church Yard, Coventry. *Pro tem.*, Miss Wilks, 76, Holyhead Road, Coventry.

G. **Crewe.**—Mrs. Powell, 217, Walthall Street, Crewe.

I. **Crick.**—Mrs. Roberts, Crick Rectory, Rugby.

L. **Cromer.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss Ethel Rust, The Grey House, Cromer.

Q. **Crondall, Crookham and Ewshott.**—Miss S. Clark, The Hurst, Church, Crookham, Hants.

Q. **Crowborough.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss E. M. F. Wren, Grazeley, Crowborough.

O. **Crowthorne.**—Miss Hamilton Ramsay, St. John's Lodge, Crowthorne.

Q. **Croydon.**—Miss W. M. Hudson, 34, Birdhurst Road, Croydon. *Office:* 34, The Arcade, High Street, Croydon.

C. **Darlington and District.**—Miss Woodhead, The Ing, Southend Avenue, Darlington.

P. **Dartmouth.**—Miss O'Regan, Greenheys, Kingswear.

G. **Darwen.**—*Pro tem.* Mrs. E. Jepson, 15, Cleveland Terrace, Darwen.

R. **Deal and Walmer.**—Miss Attwell, Victoria House, Victoria Parade, Deal.

I. **Derby.**—*Pro tem.* Mrs. Sowter, Field House, Duffield, near Derby.

F. **Dewsbury.**—Misses Law and Pickersgill, 36, Albert Terrace, Dewsbury.

L. **Diss and District.**—Mrs. Flowerdew, Billingford Hall, Scole, Norfolk.

F. **Doncaster.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Hubbard, Institution for the Deaf, Doncaster.

O. **Dorchester (Oxon.).**—*Pro tem.*, Mrs. Soper, Stadhampton, Wallingford.

Q. **Dorking, Leith Hill and District.**—Miss Rawlings, Rose Hill, Dorking.

S. **Dorset (West).**—Miss Fenwick, Down House Farm, Bridport.

E. **Driffield.**—*Sec.:* Mrs. Kemp Hopper, Beverley Road, Driffield.

K. **Dudley.**—Mrs. Powell, St. John's Vicarage, Dudley.

O. **Dunstable and Houghton Regis.**—Mrs. Garrett, Helios, Dunstable, Beds.

C. **Durham.**—Mrs. Potts, 4, Church Street, Durham.

Q. **Eastbourne.**—Miss Peacey, Rydal Mount, St. John's Road, Eastbourne.

Q. **East Grinstead.**—Mrs. Corbett, Woodgate, Danehill, Sussex.

Q. **Eastleigh.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss Rowland, B.A., 234, Southampton Road, Eastleigh.

G. **Eccles.**—Miss Thirza Potts, M.A., 14, Monton Avenue, Monton, Eccles.

Q. **Egham and District.**—Miss A. M. Leake, South Tower, Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green S.O., Surrey.

L. **Essex (North and East).**—Miss Courtauld, Colne Engaine, Earls Colne, Essex.

J **Evesham.**—Mrs. Preston, Offenham Vicarage, Evesham.

P. **Exeter.**—Mrs. Fletcher, 48, Polsloe Road, Exeter.

P. **Exmouth.**—Miss Joan Retallack, Chypraze, Exmouth. *Pro tem.*, Miss Penny, 1, Morton Crescent, Exeter.

Eye and District.—Rev. H. Drake, Braisworth Rectory, Eye, Suffolk.

P. **Falmouth.**—Miss Naomi Bassett Fox, Grove Hill, Falmouth.

Q. **Farnham and District.**—Miss Milton, Fernlea, Lower Bourne, Farnham.

G **Farnworth.**—Mrs. Affleck, Melbourne House, Kearsley, Farnworth S.O.

R **Faversham.**—Mrs. Hargrave, "The Studio," 82, Preston Street, Faversham.

L. **Felixstowe, Walton and District.**—Miss Edith Place, 24, Quilter Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk.

E. **Filey.**—Miss Hankes, 14, Southdene, Filey, Yorks.

Q. **Fleet.**—Mrs. Kayser, The Garth, Fleet, Hants.

R. **Folkestone and Hythe.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Bence, c/o Mrs. Napier Sturt, The Priory, Folkestone, and Mrs. Henry Kingsley, 7, The Bayle, Folkestone.

H. **Frodsham and Eddisbury.**—Miss F. N. Burgess, Beaconhurst, Frodsham, Cheshire.

I. **Gainsborough.**—Miss D. Rayner, Oakville, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, Lincs.

C. **Gateshead-on-Tyne.**—Miss R. Dodds, Horne House, Low Fell, Gateshead.

O. **Gerrard's Cross.**—Mrs. Barnard Davis, Brant Fell, The Ridgeway, Gerrard's Cross.

N. **Gloucester.**—Miss F. E. Walrond, Cathedral House, Gloucester.

Q. **Godalming.**—Miss T. W. Powell, and Miss Burnett, both of Munstead Rough, Godalming.

F. **Goole.**—Mrs. Parker, Fountayne Street, Goole.

C. **Gosforth and Benton.**—Miss Risely, Westfield House, Westfield Drive, Gosforth.

I. **Grantham.**—Miss M. A. Medlock, 5, Church Trees, Grantham.

L. **Great Yarmouth.**—Miss Teasdel, Martelsham, Southtown, Great Yarmouth.

E. **Grimsby.**—Mrs. C. Kitching, Newlands, Park Avenue, Grimsby.

Q. **Guildford and District.**—Miss Seymour, Enismore, Guildford. *Branch:* Cranleigh.

L. **Harpenden.**—Mrs. Oakeshott, Chelsfield, Clarence Road, Harpenden.

F. **Harrogate.**—Mrs. F. Thomas, 19, Beech Grove, Harrogate.

C. **Hartlepool.**—Miss Margaret B. Hunter, 1, Friars Terrace, Hartlepool, Co. Durham.
L. **Harwich and District.**—Miss McCarthy, 1, Alexandra Road, Dovercourt, Essex.
Q. **Haslemere and District.**—Mrs. Watkins, Ridgeways, Hindhead, Haslemere.
G. **Haslingden.**—Mrs. Berry, Carrs, Haslingden.
Q. **Hastings, St. Leonards and East Sussex.**—Miss A. Kate Rance, 21, Boscobel Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
D. **Hawkshead.**—
Q. **Heathfield and District.**—Mrs. Cunliffe, Little London, Horeham Road, E. Sussex.
O. **Henley and District.**—Mrs. Blair, Roselawn, Shiplake, Oxon.
J. **Hereford.**—Mrs. Beltington, Westwood, Hampton Park, Hereford.
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O. **Herts. (West).**—*Pro tem.*, Miss G. Bradford, 110, High Street, Watford.
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G. **Heywood.**—Miss Harvey, 93, William Street, Heywood.
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L. **Holt.**—Miss Constance Bobby, Kelling Sanatorium, Holt, Norfolk.
P. **Honiton.**—Miss W. Kirton, St. Michael's Hill, Honiton, Devon.
Q **Horley.**—Miss E. Nottidge, The Briars, Gatwick, Horley, Surrey.
Q. **Horsham.**—Miss Rowe, Chestnut Lodge, Horsham.
Org. Sec.: Pro tem., Miss Churchman, Middle Street, Horsham.
C. **Houghton-le-Spring.**—Miss Atkinson, 68, Sunderland Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Fence Houses, Co. Durham.
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L. **Hunts.**—Miss Staley, Hemingford Abbots, St. Ives, Hunts.
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K **Lichfield.**—
I. **Lincoln.**—Miss K. C. Huddleston, 185, Monks Road, Lincoln.
P. **Liskeard.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Mathieson, Otterbourne, Budleigh Salterton.
Q. **Littlehampton.**—Miss Arnett, Pellew House, Littlehampton.
H. **Liverpool.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Chubb, 52, Hatherley Street, Liverpool. *Office:* 18, Colquitt Street, Liverpool.
S. **Liverpool University.**—Miss H. C. New, The University, Liverpool.
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Q. **Lymington and District.**—Miss C. S. Batchelor, Old Ferry House, Lymington, Hants.
H. **Lytham and St. Anne's.**—Miss A. Sefton, Sunnyside, Ansdell Road North, Ansdell, near Lytham, Lancs.
G. **Macclesfield.**—Miss Annie Ryle Wright, Upton Mount, Macclesfield
O. **Maidenhead.**—Miss E. A. Duncan, Abbotsleigh, Maidenhead.
R. **Maidstone.**—Miss Lorna Bamford, The Crossways, Merlworth, near Maidstone.
E. **Malton and District.**—Miss Janet Brooke, Slingsby Rectory, Malton, York.
J. **Malvern.**—Miss B. Alder, S. Werstan's, Malvern.
Branch: Upton on-Severn.
G. **Manchester.**—Miss Darlington. *Office:* Grosvenor Chambers, 16, Deansgate, Manchester.
I. **Mansfield.**—Mrs. Manners, Edenbank, Mansfield, Notts.
L. **March.**—Mrs. Sherbrooke Walker, March Rectory, Cambridgeshire, and Miss Vawser, West End, March.
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N. **Marlborough.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss Bamber, St. Remy, London Road, Marlborough.
G **Marple.**—*Pro tem.*, Mrs. Sinclair, Green Bank, Marple.
G. **Marple Bridge.**—Miss Isabel Shanks, Ingleside, Marple Bridge. *Assist. Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Pritchard, Brierdale, Towns-cliffe Lane, Marple Bridge.
D. **Maryport.**—Miss Sybil Maughan, Hayborough, Maryport, and Miss B. Ritson, Ridgemount, Maryport.
I. **Matlock.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Brown, Fern Bank, Matlock.
I. **Melton Mowbray.**—Miss Lilian Wright, The Rectory, Frisby-on-the-Wreak, Leicestershire.
E. **Middlesbrough.**—Miss Ward, Park Road South, Middlesbrough.
G. **Middleton.**—Miss Parkin, 2, Mellalieu Street, Middleton.
C. **Middleton-on-Teesdale.**—Mrs. Roberts, Newton House, Mickleton-on-Tees, Yorks.
Q. **Midhurst.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss B. Newcombe, The Manor House, Elsted, Petersfield.
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D. **Morecambe.**—Miss Wolstenholme, Westbourne, Morecambe, W
C **Morpeth.**—Miss McDowall, East Cottingwood, Morpeth.
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H. **Newton-le-Willows.**—Miss Watkins, Kirkby Newton-le-Willows, Lancs.
F. **Normanton.**—Miss Dutton, 111, King Street, Normanton.
I. **Northampton.**—Miss Hadley, 13, Abington Grove, Northampton.
L. **North Walsham and District.**—Mrs. Bent, "The Haven," Norwich Road, N. Walsham.
G. **Northwich.**—Miss E. Brock, Mossfield, Winnington Northwich.
L. **Norwich.**—Miss Edith L. Willis, Southwell Lodge, Ipswich Road, Norwich.
S. **Norwood.**—Miss M. Alice Russell, 12, Delcourt Mansions, Rosendale Road, Dulwich, S.E.
Office: 42, Anerley Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.
I. **Nottingham.**—*Pro tem.*, Mrs. G. Dowson, 54, Long Row, Market Place, Nottingham.
K. **Nuneaton.**—Miss A. Haines, 84, Wheat Street, Nuneaton.
G. **Oldham.**—Mrs. Bridge, 82, Greengate Street, Oldham, and Mrs. Siddall, 53, Greengate Street, Oldham.
K. **Olton.**—Mrs. Bennett, Trimpley, Kineton Road, Olton.
J. **Oswestry.**—Mrs. M. C. Cartwright, Brook Street House, Oswestry.
P. **Ottery St. Mary.**—Mrs. Pares, Easthayes, Ottery St. Mary.
I. **Oundle and District.**—Miss Helen Smith, The Rectory, Oundle, Northants.
O. **Oxford.**—Mrs. Geldart, 10, Chadlington Road, Oxford, and Miss E. Lewis, 13, Rawlinson Road, Oxford.
S. **Oxford Women Students.**—Mrs. C. Bailey, 7, Banbury Road, Oxford.
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Q **Purley.**—Miss Wallis, 2, Foxley Lane, Purley.
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F. **Sheffield.**—Mrs. Gill, 19, Southgrove Road, Sheffield.
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L. **Sheringham.**—Miss Baker, White Lodge, Cromer Road, Sheringham.
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K. **Shipston-on-Stour.**—Miss Lilian Dickins, Cherington, Shipston-on-Stour.
R. **Shoreham and Otford.**—Miss Dorothy Scott, Shoreham, Sevenoaks.
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P. **Sidmouth and District.**—Lady Lockyer, 16, Pen-y-wern Road, S.W.
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K. **Stone.**—Miss Bertha Chapman, Mayfield House, Stone, Staffs.
J. **Stourbridge.**—Miss E. Downing, The Elms, Hagley, near Stourbridge.
L. **Stowmarket.**—Miss M. Hitchcock, Snitterfield, Stowmarket, Suffolk.
S. **Stratford-on-Avon.**—Mrs. Cameron Stuart, The Firs, Stratford-on-Avon.
N. **Street.**—Mrs. S. J. Clothier, Leigh Holt, Street, Somerset.
N. **Stroud.**—Miss Nancie Gorton, London Road, Stroud, Glos.
C. **Sunderland.**—Mrs. Johnson, 2, Gray Road, Sunderland, and Miss Johnson.
Q. **Sussex (Central).**—Miss F. C. Bevan, Horsgate, Cuckfield.
Branches: Cuckfield, Hayward's Heath, Horsted Keynes, Hurstpierpoint.
K. **Sutton Coldfield.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss M. Brooks, Royal Road, Sutton Coldfield.
N. **Swindon.**—Miss Kathleen Ainsworth, Summerville, Bath Road, Swindon.
N. **Taunton.**—Miss Greswell, 2, Haines Hill Terrace, Taunton.
P **Teignmouth.**—Miss Langley, 3, Barnpark, Teignmouth, S. Devon.
L. **Thetford.**—Mrs. Hardy, St. Mary's Vicarage, Thetford, Norfolk.
P. **Three Towns and District.**—Dr. Mabel Ramsay, 4, Wentworth Villas, North Hill, Plymouth.
P. **Tiverton.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Lake, St. Aubyns, Tiverton, Devon.
R. **Tonbridge.**—Miss B. Milner, 26, The Drive, Tonbridge.
P. **Topsham.**—Mrs. Bush, 9, Clystlands, Topsham, Devon.
P. **Torquay.**—Miss N. H. Palmer. *Office*: 10, Abbey Road, Torquay.
P. **Totnes.**—
N. **Trowbridge.**—Mrs. E. H. Pullinger, The Halve, Trowbridge, Wilts.
P. **Truro.**—Miss M. J. Robinson, 46, Lemon Street, Truro.
R. **Tunbridge Wells.**—Mrs. Tattershall Dodd. *Office*: 16, Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells.
C. **Tynemouth.**—Miss H. W. Balleny, 5, Northumberland Square, North Shields.
T. **Upton-on-Severn** (Branch of Malvern).—*Pro tem.*, Miss M. Willan, Hanley Swan, Worcestershire.
P. **Wadebridge.**—Miss Helen Symons, Polseath, Wadebridge, Cornwall.
F. **Wakefield.**—Miss F. M. Beaumont, Hatfield Hall, Wakefield.
C. **Walker.**—Miss M. Ellis, 613, Welbeck Road, Walker-on-Tyne.
H. **Wallasey and Wirral.**—*Hon. Sec.*: Miss E. F. McPherson, 16, Newland Drive, Wallasey, Cheshire. *Assist. Hon. Sec.*: Miss J. Ward Platt, Warre Dene, New Brighton, Cheshire.
Branches: Heswall.—*Correspondent:* Miss A. May, The Rectory, Heswall. West Kirby.—*Correspondent:* Miss Garlick, 5, Park Road, West Kirby.
K. **Walsall.**—*Pro tem.*, Miss Lowry, 74, Lysways Street, Walsall.
C. **Wallsend.**—*Sec. Pro tem.*, Dr. Mabel Campbell, 2, Graingerville South, Newcastle.
C. **Wansbeck S.E.**—Mrs. Tomlinson, Lilleville, Monkseaton.
H. **Warrington.**—Mrs. R. Pemberton, Bentley, Ellesmere Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.
K. **Warwick and Leomington.**—Mrs. Alfred Hill, St. Bees, 20, Northumberland Road, Leamington.
K. **Wednesbury.**—Mrs. Thomas, 1, Loxdale Street, Wednesbury.
I. **Wellingborough.**—Miss L. James, The Laurels, Wellingborough, Northants.
J. **Wellington (Salop).**—Mrs. Clemson, Leahurst, Constitution Hill, Wellington, Salop.
N. **Wells.**—Mrs. Parsons, Principal's House, Wells.
K. **West Bromwich.**—Mrs. Langley Browne, Moor House, West Bromwich, Staffs.
C. **West Hartlepool.**—Mrs. Ainsley, Langdale House, 17, Clifton Avenue, West Hartlepool.
N. **Weston-super-Mare.**—Miss Vaughan, Waveney, Beach Road, Weston-super-Mare.
C. **West Stanley and District.**—*Sec. Pro tem.*, Miss M. Johnson, 8, Watson Terrace, Stanley, S.O., Co. Durham.
Q. **Weybridge and District.**—Miss Agnes Gardiner, Heathfield, Weybridge.
G. **Whaley Bridge.**—Miss C. D. Simpson, Lynton, Whaley Bridge.
E. **Whitby.**—Miss Thornton, Sleights, Yorks.
J. **Whitchurch.**—Mrs. Clay Finch, Bark Hill House, Whitchurch, Salop.
D. **Whitehaven.**—Miss Cowie, 83, Scotch Street, Whitehaven.
G. **Wigan and District.**—Mrs. Fairhurst, Knowles Villa, Warrington Road, Pemberton, Wigan.
G. **Wilmslow, Styal, and Alderley Edge.**—*Hon. Sec.*, Miss E. M. Greg, Lode Hill, Styal, Cheshire.
N. **Wilts. (North-West).**—Miss A. Tennant, LL.A., The Nutshell, Corsham, Wilts.
N. **Wilts. (South).**—Mrs. Peart, Fovant, Salisbury.
N. **Winchcombe and District.**—Mrs. Springfield, The Bays, Winchcombe, Glos., and Miss Jordan, 8, Royal Parade, Cheltenham.
Q. **Winchester.**—Miss A. E. Dumbleton, Wyke Lodge, Bereweeke Road, Winchester.
N. **Winscombe.**—Mrs. Tanner, Fordlynch, Winscombe, Somerset.
G. **Winsford.**—Miss Mary Walsh, The Hollies, Winsford, Cheshire.
O. **Woburn Sands.**—Miss H. M. Brown, Daneswood, Woburn Sands.
Q. **Woking.**—Miss Davies Colley, Briarwood, Woking.
O. **Wokingham.**—Miss Violet Eustace, Montague House, Wokingham, Berks.
K. **Wolverhampton.**—Mrs. F. D. Taylor, 107, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton.
L. **Woodbridge.**—Mrs. Brooke Edwards, Singli, Cumberland Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
L. **Woodford.**—Miss H. Morton, Wynstone, Churchfields, S. Woodford, N.E.
J. **Worcester.**—Miss J. H. House, 36, Victoria Street, Worcester.
D. **Workington and District.**—Mrs. Oldfield, Windy Nook, Craig Road, Workington, and Mrs. Curry, 36, Mason Street, Workington.
Q **Worthing.**—Miss Helen Wright, *Office*, 1, Warwick Street, Worthing; and Miss Bowen.
N. **Yeovil.**—*Hon. Sec.*: Miss W. Matthews, The Avenue, Yeovil.
E. **York.**—Mrs. G. K. Meyer, *Office*, 10, Museum Street, York.

B.—Scotland.

Aberdeen.—Miss Grant Smith, Balvenie, Cults, Aberdeenshire. *Office:* 214, Union Street, Aberdeen.
Abernethy.—Miss Williamson, Ochil View, Abernethy, Perthshire.
Alloa.—Mrs. Andrew, 20, Fenton Street, Alloa, Scotland.
Alva.—*Pro tem.*, Miss N. Elliot, Copland Place, Alva.
Ardrossan and Saltcoats.—Mrs. Kerr, 32, Sydney Street, Saltcoats, Ayrshire.
Auchterarder.—Miss Eadie, Lona, Auchterarder.
Ayr and Troon.—Mrs. Harvey, B.A., Woodview, Troon.
Beauly.—Miss A. Munro, The School, Beauly, Inverness-shire.
Berwickshire.—Mrs. Hope, Sunwick, Berwick-on-Tweed.
Blairmore.—Mrs. Leggat, Duart Tower, Blairmore, Argyllshire.
Brechin.—Miss Jeannie Duncan, 81, Southesk Street, Brechin, N.B.
Bridge of Weir.—Mrs. J. J. Moffat, 2, St. George's Terrace, Bridge of Weir.
Brora.—Miss Torrance, Shoemaker Lane, Brora, Sutherland.
Carnoustie (Branch of Dundee).—
Crail (Branch of St. Andrews).—
Castle Douglas.—Mrs. Patrick Gifford, The Cottage, Castle Douglas, N.B.
Crieff.—Miss Kinghorn, Mayfield, Crieff.
Cupar.—Miss Davidson, Bonvil, Cupar, Fife.
Dingwall.—Miss Ledingham, 70a, High Street, Dingwall.
Dollar.—Miss Marjorie Kent, Drummond Cottage, Dollar.
Dornoch.—Miss Murray, Victoria Cottage, Sutherland Road, Dornoch, Sutherland.
Dunbar.—Miss F. Melise Aspinwall, 4, Bowmont Terrace, Dunbar.
Dundee.—Miss Henderson. *Office:* 12, Meadowside, Dundee. *Branch*: Carnoustie.
Dunfermline.—Mrs. Mackinnon, 14, Park Terrace, Dunfermline.
Edinburgh.—Miss K. M. Loudon. *Org. Sec.*: Miss Lisa Gordon. *Office:* 40, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.
Elgin and Lossiemouth.—Miss MacPherson, The Studio, 23, High Street, Elgin, and Miss Forsyth, Dalquharran, Lossiemouth.
Falkirk.—Mrs. Robb, Laurieston Manse, Falkirk.
Fortrose.—Mrs. S. J. Haldane, St. Catherine's, Fortrose.
Galashiels.—Miss Smith, Sunnybrae, Magdala Terrace, Galashiels.
Glasgow.—Miss Lindsay. *Office:* 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.
Glenfarg.—Miss Jessie Seaton, Green Bank, Glenfarg.
Golspie.—*Pro tem.*, Miss McIntosh, Woodside, Lairg, Sutherland.
Branch: Lairg.
Gourock.—Miss Johnston, 1, Ashburn Gardens, Gourock.
Greenock.—Mrs. Laurie, Red House, 38, Ardgowan Street, Greenock.
Haddington.—Mrs. Kerr, Barney Mains, Haddington, N.B.
Hamilton.—Miss G. M. Carmichael, South Park Road, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.
Hawick.—Miss Williamson, 18, Buccleuch Street, Hawick.
Helmsdale.—Miss MacIntyre, Sutherland Street, Helmsdale.
Innerleithen.—Miss Robertson, Red Roofs, Innerleithen, N.B.
Inverness.—Mrs. James Fraser, 19, Old Edinburgh Road, Inverness.
John o' Groats.—Miss B. S. Alexander, 34, Princes Street, Thurso.
Kelso.—Mrs. Fleming, Abbey Row, Kelso.
Kilmalcolm.—Mrs. Wood, Barclaven, Kilmalcolm, Renfrewshire.
Kilmarnock.—Mrs. Hay, Leslie Lodge, Dundonald Road, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire.
Kirkcaldy Burghs.—Mrs. Honeyman, Sauchendene, Kirkcaldy.
Kirkcudbright and District.—Miss Charlotte Banks, 18, St. Mary Street, Kirkcudbright.
Largs.—Miss Margaret Paton, Mansfield, Largs, Ayrshire.
Lenzie.—Miss M. H. Kerr, Clunaline, Lenzie.
Leven.—Mrs. Galloway, Kinellan, Leven.
Melrose.—Miss Riddell, The Cloisters, Melrose.
Montrose.—Miss Hossack, 89, Bridge Street, Montrose.
Nairn.—Miss Blane, Seaforth, Seabank Road, Nairn.
North Berwick.—Lady Schäfer, Marly Knowle, North Berwick.
Oban.—Miss Ada Marsden, St. John's House, Oban.
Orcadian.—Mrs. Cursiter, Daisybank, Kirkwall, Orkney.
Paisley.—Miss Risk, 36, Whitehaugh Drive, Paisley.
Peebles.—Mrs. W. E. Thorburn, Hay Lodge, Peebles.
Perth.—Mrs. Slater, West Manse, Scone.
Branches: Bridge of Earn, Scone, Alyth, and Coupar Angus.
St. Andrews.—Mrs. Scott, St. Regulus, St. Andrews.
Branches: Crail, Anstruther, and Newburgh.
Selkirk.—Mrs. Connochie, Park House, Selkirk.
Shetland.—Miss Jamieson, Twagios, Lerwick, Shetland.
Stirlingshire.—Mrs. Alec Morrison, Roselea, Bridge of Allan.
Stranraer.—Miss Paterson, Creebridge, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire.
Tain.—Miss D. Stewart, Balanloch, Tain, Ross-shire.
Branches: Ardgay, Bonar Bridge, Portmahomack.
Tayside.—Miss Maxwell, Kinbank, Wormit-on-Tay, Fife.
Wick.—Miss Stephen, 6, Coach Road, Wick.

Wales.

M. **Aberdare and District.**—Mrs. Pritchard, Corinthia Villa, Elm Grove, Aberdare.
M. **Abergavenny.**—Miss Gardner, "Hawkhurst," Western Road, Abergavenny.
M. **Aberystwyth.**—Miss Marles Thomas, Somerville, South Terrace, Aberystwyth.
H. **Bangor.**—*Hon. Org. Sec.*: Mrs. C. Price White, Rockleigh, Bangor. *Hon. Sec.*: Miss Nora Lewis, Belmont, Bangor.
Branch: Llanfairfechan.
M. **Brecon and District.**—Miss Elizabeth Jane Edwards, 2, Camden Villas, Brecon.
M. **Cardiff and District.**—Miss Howell, 132, Queen Street, Cardiff.
Branch: Penarth.
M. **Carmarthen.**—Miss B. A. Holme, Kai-ora, Myrddin Crescent, Carmarthen.

H. **Carnarvon.**—Mrs. E. P. Evans, Roman Villa, Carnarvon; and Miss Ryle Davies, Cartrefle, Segontium Road South, Carnarvon.
Branch: Pen-y-groes.
Chepstow.—Miss Edith Smith, 28a, High Street, Chepstow.
H. **Colwyn Bay.**—Miss M Spencer, Farlands, Penrhyn Bay, near Llandudno.
H. **Criccieth.**—Mrs. Walter Jones, Emu, Criccieth.
H. **Dolgelly.**—Mrs. John Jones, Wenallt, Springfield Street, Dolgelly, and Miss Gertrude Lewis, Dr Williams' School, Dolgelly
M. **Ebbw Vale.**—Miss A. R. Johns, Caegwyn, Ebbw Vale.
M. **Farmers District.**—Miss Bessie Williams, Bedwellty, Farmers, Llamwrda, R.S.O., Carmarthen.
M. **Kidwelly and Ferryside.**—Miss E. M. Meredith, "Brynhyfryd," Kidwelly, S. Wales.
M. **Lampeter.**—Miss Minnie C. Davies, Velindre House, Lampeter.
H. **Llandudno.**—Miss Wright, Preswylfa, Abbey Road, Llandudno.
M. **Llanelly.**—Miss Smith, 9, Mina Street, Llanelly.
M. **Llangollen.**—Miss B. Stewart, Oaklands, Llangollen.
M. **Merionethshire.**—Mrs Francis Lewis, Balkan Hill, Aberdovey.
M. **Merthyr and District.**—Mrs. M J. Williams, 1, Lewis Terrace, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil.
M. **Neath, Briton Ferry, and District.**—Mrs. Tonner, 22, Rugby Avenue, Neath.
M. **Newport, Mon.**—Miss Acomb, Ty-gwyn, Clytha Park, Newport, Mon.
M. **Penarth,** Branch of Cardiff.
H. **Pen-y-groes,** Branch of Carnarvon.
H. **Penmaenmawr.**—Miss A. M. Harker, Glan Afon, Penmaenmawr, and Mrs. Philip Williams, Cynlas, Penmaenmawr.
M. **Pontypool and District.**—Miss Gwladys M. Bailey, The Grove, Pontnewynydd, near Pontypool, and Miss Muriel Mosely, Ty-Gwyn, Pontnewynydd.
H. **Pwllheli.**—Miss Moody, Penlam Street, Pwllheli
H. **Rhyl and District.**—Mrs. Amy Rhodes, Kempton House, Rhyl.
L. **Swansea.**—Miss N. Griffith Jones, 9, Eaton Terrace, Swansea.
L. **Upper Rhondda.**—Miss Ridley, The Schools, Blaen-Rhondda.
H. **Wrexham.**—Miss Price, 76, Beechley Road, Wrexham.

India.

R. **Mussoorie.**—Miss Weatherley, "The Deodars," Mussoorie, India

News from the Societies and Federations.

North-Eastern Federation.—*Continued.*

NEWCASTLE.—March 28th.—Drawing-room meeting at Mrs. Mail's, 62, St. George's Terrace. Miss M. M. Buchanan, Poor Law Guardian, gave an address on her work. There was an interesting discussion. All present were working for the forthcoming Exhibition of Women's Crafts and Industries.
April 3rd.—Annual meeting at Y.W.C.A., 4, Saville Place. There was an excellent attendance. Dr. Ethel Williams was in the chair. The new Committee and officials were appointed, Dr. Williams being once more unanimously appointed Chairman of Committee. The annual report was read by Miss Andrew, and its adoption moved by Mr. Price. The financial statement was read, showing a deficit on last year's work. A collection was taken, and promises of donations towards the deficit obtained.

SHILDON.—On March 24th the annual meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Shildon. The officers were re-elected, and four members added to the Committee. Miss St. John, E.F.F. Organiser to the North-Eastern Federation, then gave an address, which was much appreciated. Tea, and music by Miss Lishman and Miss Hind brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

STANLEY.—The Elite Small Hall was crowded on March 30th, when Miss Harriss presided over a social meeting held to form a Branch in Stanley and District. Miss I. S. A. Beaver's speech on "The History of the N.U. and its Present Policy" was thoroughly enjoyed, and twenty-two new members joined. Collection, &c., 15s. 9d. Thirty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.
At the business meeting on April 7th in the same hall the Committee and the following officers were elected:—Chairman, Miss Hilda Johnson; Hon. Secretary, Miss Marion Johnson, 8, Watson Terrace; and Hon. Treasurer, Miss Harriss, Garden Terrace. Miss Beaver spoke on "THE COMMON CAUSE," urging all members to take the paper regularly. Thity-nine have agreed to do so. Three new members joined. Eighteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. The Branch has now seventy-five members.

TYNEMOUTH.—Monthly members' meeting, held on March 18th in St. Oswin's Hall, Tynemouth. Chair taken by Miss H. Ballemy; speaker, Miss Beaver. Refreshments provided by Mrs. Charles. New members, ten; copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold, seventeen. Three members promised to take THE COMMON CAUSE weekly. Collection (nominal), 1s. Much interest was taken in Miss Beaver's address. Good crop of questions.

SOUTH-EAST WANSBECH.—The annual meeting was held at St. Mildred's, Monkseaton, on April 1st; Mrs. Campbell in the chair. There was a good attendance. The annual report was read by Mrs. Tomlinson, the Hon. Secretary, and the financial statement by Mrs. Montgomery. Both gave satisfactory results of the work done by the Society during the year.

Kentish Federatiou.

CANTERBURY.—A very successful public meeting was held at the Foresters' Hall on March 27th. There was a crowded room, and over £4 was collected in the hall. Mr. E. R. J. Glanville was in the cahir, and the speakers were the Rev. F. M. Green and Miss Muriel Matters.

FOLKESTONE, HYTHE, AND DISTRICT.—On March 25th the President gave an At Home at The Priory to a large gathering of members. Mrs. Henry Kingsley took the chair, and gave a very good address. Miss Griffith-Jones made an excellent speech on "The Disabilities and Hardships of Voteless Women." Mrs. Arthur Chalk delighted the audience with pianoforte music.
A series of open-air meetings in the President's grounds was announced for the summer months.

RAMSGATE.—A very successful meeting was held at Manston by the Ramsgate Society on March 23rd. The speakers were Miss Griffith-Jones, Mrs. Neville-Wyatt, and Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Hawkins took the chair. This was the first Suffrage meeting held here, and it aroused much interest. The attendance was excellent. At the close of the meeting light refreshments were provided. Copies of THE COMMON CAUSE, the Church League Suffrage, &c., were given away. One member and twenty "Friends" joined the Ramsgate Society.

SHOREHAM AND OTFORD.—A well-attended public meeting was held on March 24th in the Village Hall, Otford. The speaker was Miss Muriel Matters. Many "Friends'" cards were signed. A few new members joined the Society.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—A meeting was held at 18, Crescent Road, on March 27th, when Miss Masterman gave an address on "Housing."
A spring conference was held in the Town Hall on March 31st. Mrs. Nott Bower, P.L.G., spoke on "Further Legislation Necessary for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic and Protection of Children." Lady Coote was in the chair.

ROCHESTER AND DISTRICT.—On March 27th our annual meeting was held. Two Vice-Presidents were elected. A vote of thanks to our President for her liberality during the past year was passed. A member of the Women's Labour League made an appeal for contributions to a jumble sale for the assistance of women in Dublin. The sum of 11s. 6d. was collected.

TONBRIDGE.—A members' meeting was held on March 26th at Hope House, in connection with the forthcoming Sweated Industries Exhibition, for which the Tonbridge Branch are co-operating with other local organisations.

HOLMBURY ST. MARY.—On April 15th a successful meeting was held. The speakers were Miss M. Baker and Miss Constance Astor.

East Midland Federation.

CHESTERFIELD.—On March 25th, in connection with the Congregational Literary and Social Union, a paper was read by Miss Jessie Smith on "The Woman's Movement." Mrs. Stevens took the chair.
On March 27th, Miss Maude Royden addressed a most successful and enthusiastic public meeting. Mrs. Webb-Peploe, President of the Chesterfield W.S.S., was in the chair. Forty-five new members joined the Society, and nine dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold (eight dozen at the meeting and one dozen in the streets).

DERBY.—Friday afternoon lectures have been continued at the Club, and arrangements have been made for a "Social" on April 24th. It is hoped that Miss Muriel Matters will address a series of garden meetings in June.
A correspondence has taken place with Mr. Holman Gregory, the prospective Liberal candidate for South Derbyshire. He is evidently a convinced Suffragist, but not of the type that makes specious promises. As he is standing in the place of Sir Herbert Raphael, who was an ardent "Anti," the Derby Society feels fairly satisfied.

LEICESTER.—In connection with the annual delegates' meeting of the Shop-Assistants' Union, held at the King's Hall, Grand Hotel, Leicester, on Easter Sunday and Monday, members of the Leicester Society stood at the doors of the Hall at the beginning and end of each session, distributing literature, selling THE COMMON CAUSE, and obtaining a goodly number of signatures to "Friends" cards. It is hoped that by this action they helped to stimulate the interest which the members of the Union already felt in Women's Suffrage.
On April 24th, Mrs. Gatty, the Women's Organiser of the Shop-Assistants' Union, gave a very interesting address on "Women in Industry" to a meeting of members and "Friends" of the Leicester Society in one of the Committee Rooms at the Temperance Hall. Miss Elizabeth Blackstone spoke on the general aspect of the Suffrage question, and a discussion followed. The Chairman was Mrs. T. R. Ryder.

Manchester Federation.

ACCRINGTON.—April 7th.—Social evening in I.L.P. rooms. Chairman, Mr. H. Carter. Speaker, the Rev. A. J. Humphreys.
April 21st.—Last fortnightly Suffrage and Labour Social meeting of the session. Chairman, Mr. Hindle. Speaker, Mr. Simmons.

HASLINGDEN.—April 19th.—A surprise supper, provided by Mrs. Draper, given to members and "Friends," resulted in a substantial amount of money being added to the Branch funds.
April 20th.—Open-air meeting. Chairman, Mr. W. H. Thomas. Speaker, Mrs. Annot Robinson.

HYDE.—April 1st.—Meeting of members and "Friends." Speaker, R. E. Jones, Esq., M.A.

KNUTSFORD.—April 20th.—Social Evening. Chairman, Mr. J. R. Tomlinson. Speaker, Mrs. Hawkins.

MANCHESTER, N.E.—March 23rd and 27th.—Successful dinner-hour meetings were held in Newton Heath. March 26th.—Ancoats Suffrage Club, addressed by Mrs. Annot Robinson. March 28th.—The jumble sale realised £2, after expensese were met. March 30th.—Joint Suffrage and Labour meetings were held in the Wesleyan Schools, Newton Heath, and in the New Cross I.L.P. Rooms. Speakers, Mrs. Müter Wilson, Mr. Thatcher (Sheffield), Mr. Clement Stott, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Miss E. Wilkinson, and at Newton Heath, Mrs. J. R. Clynes was in the Chair. April 2nd.—Bradford Club, addressed by Mr. Ch. Priestley. April 9th.—Ancoats Club, addressed by Miss Wilkinson. April 23rd.—Ancoats Club, addressed by Miss Harris.

MANCHESTER.—Lecture in Milton Hall, April 1st. Mrs. Montgomery spoke on "Wives and Mothers under the Poor Law."
April 20th.—Meeting of Hulme Club. Speaker, Mr. C. Priestley.

MARPLE.—In order to raise funds for the Manchester Federation, a competition tea was given by Mrs. Tierney in January. A dance was held early in March, and on March 27th a grand white elephant sale and entertainment was held in the Girls' Institute. Miss Ker was in the chair, and Mrs. McLaine opened the sale. There were stalls devoted to "white elephants," to work, to books, to Suffrage literature, a flower stall, sweet stall, jumble stall, also a large shoe in which sat a little girl selling dollies. Afternoon tea and evening dinners were served. A palmist told fortunes, and great interest was shown in a baby show. In the evening a concert and entertainment was provided, and a musical sketch entitled "Between the Soup and the Savoury." The Committee, as a result, has been able to send £35 to the Manchester Federation, which, with the £15 sent by Marple Bridge, makes a total of £50.

STOCKPORT.—March 26th.—Social evening and entertainment yielded a profit of £2 8s. Twenty-one copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.
April 20th.—Crossley's Café—Speaker, Mr. F. S. Barnes.

MANCHESTER.—April 6th.—The Manchester and District Federation held a meeting in the Minor Hall, Y.M.C.A., for members only. There was an exceptionally large attendance. Mrs. Swanwick dealt exhaustively with the Election Fighting Fund policy. The meeting was then thrown open for discussion, and the essential points of the policy were keenly debated.

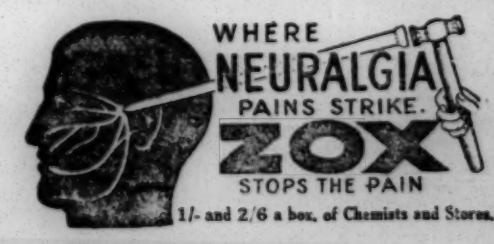
South Wales and Monmouthshire.

CARDIFF has sent in no report.
The Barry Branch of this Society arranged a monthly meeting for April 3rd to be addressed by Mr. Frank Murrell on "The Work of an Urban District Council." This was the second of a very interesting series of members' meetings which have been arranged by the Barry Branch for the study of the work being carried out by the various public bodies in their own area. The plan of work projected by the Barry Committee is one which should prove helpful to many Societies within the Union. Each lecturer is a member of the authority whose work is under discussion.

NEATH.—On April 24th Mr. Henry Davies, Carnarvon, was expected to deliver an address. No report has been received.

NEWPORT.—March 1st—Rogerstown Railwaymen's Union—Speaker, Miss Foxley—Resolution carried *nem. con.*—Twenty-seven "Friends'" cards were signed.
March 2nd.—Railwaywomen's Guild—Speaker, Mrs. Meggitt. Her subject was "Sex Education." One new member joined, and six "Friends'" cards were signed.
March 5th.—Mrs. Lucan Davies—Five "Friends" signed—Resolution carried *nem. con.*
March 6th.—Public meeting—Speakers, Miss Royden and Mr. Malcolm Mitchell—Four new members joined—Twenty-one "Friends'" cards—Collection, £3 7s. 3d. The resolution was carried with two dissentients. Twelve and a half dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.
March 10th.—Drawing-room meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Pember Reeves—Six new members joined.
March 20th.—Newport Trades Council, at which 5,840 men were represented. Mrs. Lucan Davies and Mrs. Meggitt addressed the meeting. Six new members joined the local Suffrage Society, and a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was carried *nem. con.*

YSTRAD-RHONDDA is reported to have held one splendid meeting of the Society at Porth during March, when a Committee was appointed to work up a lecture for May 5th, and Mrs. Andrews read an excellent paper on "Suffrage." A circular from the A.S.S. was read, and a discussion followed.
Will the Secretaries of the various Societies within the Federation please note that their reports should reach THE COMMON CAUSE Correspondent not later than the last Saturday in the month? If this rule is not observed, reports are either stale news or may not appear at all.



ORGANISER'S REPORT.

PORT TALBOT.—On April 6th we were able to successfully form a Branch of the National Union with thirty members. The Society agreed to meet regularly on the second Monday in every month. At the next meeting they decided to have a debate on Women's Suffrage—for and against. With such keen and energetic Suffragists as Miss Cross, our President, and Miss Hamilton, we feel sure the Society will be one of our most prosperous Societies.

ABERTILLERY.—It is hoped that a Branch will be started in the autumn. We have already nine members. The Men's Organisation have all passed resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage.

South-Western Federation Report.

YEALMPTON.—March 28th, at the Church Mission Room at 8 p.m. Chair, Dr. Mabel Ramsay. Speakers, Mrs. Whalley and Miss Baker. A very good meeting was held, the audience being most attentive, and Mrs. Whalley's speech was much appreciated. The resolution—"That this meeting calls upon the Government to introduce a measure granting the extension of the franchise to women"—was carried by a large majority. About twenty "Friends'" cards were signed. Some literature and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and a collection taken.

KINGSBRIDGE.—March 30th.—The Town Hall at 3 p.m.—Chair, Rev. J. M. Sandford.—Speaker, Mrs. Whalley. People in Kingsbridge showed so much interest in Suffrage that we were obliged to move from one of the smaller rooms into the large hall in order to accommodate our audience. Mrs. Whalley made a most eloquent speech, and the resolution—"That this meeting calls upon the Government to introduce a measure granting the franchise to women"—was carried. Nine members joined, and many "Friends." Some literature and eighteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and the collection amounted to £1 4s. 2d.

SALCOMBE.—March 31st.—Central Hall at 3 p.m.—Chair, Rev. J. M. Bell-Salter.—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters. Miss Matters gave a splendid speech which much impressed her audience. Thirty-three "Friends'" cards were signed, and literature and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. The collection amounted to £2 0s. 1½d.

OTTERY S. MARY.—March 31st.—An invitation meeting was held when Miss Gertrude Pares addressed a very interested audience. Miss Fell, Hon. Sec. for Friends of Women Suffrage in S.W. Federation, took the Chair, and explained the "Friends" scheme. Four "Friends" were enrolled.

FALMOUTH.—March 23rd.—The annual meeting was held, followed by a musical entertainment which was much appreciated.

April 2nd.—The Drill Hall at 8 p.m.—Chairman, J. G. Stephens, Esq., J.P.—Speakers, Miss Muriel Matters and F. J. Bowles, Esq., J.P. This was a most successful meeting, and the resolution—"That this meeting demands a Government measure to enfranchise women"—was carried unanimously. Thirty-two copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, twenty-two "Friends" enrolled, and the collection amounted to £2 2s. 10½d. A feature of this meeting was the large number of men present.

BODMIN.—April 1st.—Public Rooms at 8 p.m.—Chair, G. C. Carpenter, Esq.—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters. The resolution—"That this meeting, considering the enfranchisement of women to be long overdue, calls upon the Government to introduce a measure of women's suffrage at the earliest opportunity"—was carried. Three dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, nine new members joined, and three "Friends." The collection amounted to £1 11s. 4½d.

EXETER.—April 3rd.—Barnfield Hall at 8 p.m.—Chair, Miss M. P. Willcocks, B.A.—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters. A large and enthusiastic audience which thoroughly enjoyed Miss Matter's clever speech. The resolution—"That this meeting calls on the Government to bring in a Bill for the enfranchisement of women"—was carried with one dissentient. Sixty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and eleven new members enrolled. The collection amounted to £4 12s.

EXMOUTH.—April 22nd.—Public Hall at 3 p.m.—Chair, Miss J. D. Montgomery.—Speaker, Mrs Swanwick, M.A. Mrs. Swanwick's address was very much appreciated, and the resolution—"That this meeting is of opinion that the political enfranchisement of women is a reform both just and expedient"—was carried unanimously. Fourteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, eight new members joined, and twenty "Friends." Collection, £3 8s. 7d.

A meeting was also held on March 31st at the Y.M.C.A. Mrs. Whalley gave a most excellent address to the young men. Twelve "Friends" were enrolled.

DEVONPORT.—A most successful public meeting was held on April 21st at The Welcome, with Mrs. Daymond, P.L.G., in the Chair, when a large audience was much impressed by the fine speeches by Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., and Mrs. Whalley. The usual resolution calling upon the Government to introduce a measure of Women's Suffrage was passed unanimously. Three dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, four new members gained, and collection of £1 1s.

TORQUAY.—The formal opening of the new offices of the Torquay Society took place on Wednesday, April 22nd. Hon. Lady Acland was in the Chair, and Mrs. Knight Bruce gave a most eloquent address to members. The Secretary, Miss Palmer, read a list of donations towards the expenses of the new office. The Society has been most fortunate in securing such excellent premises in a conspicuous position.

SHALDON.—The Teignmouth Society held a meeting at the Victoria Hall, Shaldon, in the afternoon of April 23rd. Miss Langley took the Chair, and Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., gave a most interesting address to a small but most sympathetic audience. The resolution calling upon the Government to introduce a measure of Women's Suffrage was carried unanimously. Eleven copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and two new members joined and four "Friends."

LONDON SOCIETY.

BALHAM.—The last two open-air meetings were successful. The first, on March 27th, was addressed by Miss P. Fawcett and Miss Cockle. Twelve "Friends" were enrolled. The second, held on April 17th, was addressed by Miss D. Brown. There was an exceptionally interested audience. Twenty-five "Friends." At both meetings there was a good demand for THE COMMON CAUSE; on the last occasion the demand exceeding the supply.

CHISWICK AND BEDFORD PARK.—A very successful meeting and entertainment was held at the Church Institute, Strand-on-the-Green, Chiswick, on April 16th. About 130 people were present, Mrs. Gertrude Dale in the Chair. Miss Helen Ward gave a most interesting speech which was listened to with much sympathy and appreciation. A new Suffrage play, by Miss Constance Campbell, entitled "One of the Old Guard," was produced by Miss Di Forbes and cleverly played by friends from the Three Arts Club. There were also recitations by Miss Sara Carr and Miss Concordia Merrill. Miss Doggett kindly gave some delightful music, making altogether a most enjoyable evening.

UPPER CLAPTON.—A very successful meeting was held in St. Matthew's Parish Hall on April 23rd, the Chair being taken by the Rev. F. E. Birch, Vicar and Rural Dean of Shoreditch, and the Speakers were Miss Royden and the Rev. A. E. N. Sunnis. A resolution in favour of Woman's Suffrage was carried unanimously. A collection of £1 9s. 2d. was taken. Literature and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and some "Friends'" cards signed.

DEPTFORD.—On April 20th, Miss Hay Cooper addressed the Christ Church Women's meeting on the "Religious Aspect." Seventeen "Friends" were enrolled.

HOLBORN AND SOUTH ST. PANCRAS.—A very successful and well-attended meeting for working women was held at 13, Bedford Square on April 2nd. Hostess, Mrs. Ricado. Mrs. H. B. Irving in the Chair. Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford. Four new members and twenty-three "Friends" were enrolled, and nineteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

KENNINGTON.—On the afternoon of April 23rd Mrs. Rawlings addressed a drawing-room meeting at 22, Lansdowne Gardens on "Anti-Suffrage objections answered," and Miss Hoblyn presided. Mrs. R. J. Back was the hostess, and heartily welcomed the visitors. The resolution was carried unanimously; five new members were made; four "Friends" enrolled, and a goodly quantity of copies of THE COMMON CAUSE and literature sold.

MARYLEBONE.—A very successful open-air meeting was held on April 22nd at Nutford Place, when the Chair was taken by Mr. W. E. Greaves, and the speakers were Mrs. Watson and Miss Ruth Young.

WHITECHAPEL AND ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—On April 20th a meeting was held at Hanbury Hall, Spitalfields. About seventy people attended, and the Chair was taken by the Rev. Father Murphy; the Speakers being Mrs. Paul Campbell, Dr. Myer Nathan, LL.D., and Miss Ruth Young. Mr. and Mrs. Watson kindly sang and played the piano. The resolution was carried unanimously. Forty-five "Friends" were enrolled, and over a dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in NOT LATER THAN THE MONDAY before the announcement is to be inserted. Notices must be addressed to the Sub-Editor.

London.

MAY 1.

Peckham—College Place, Peckham Road—Speaker, Mrs. Paul Campbell—Chair, Miss Gloyer 8.0

MAY 3.

Hyde Park—Near Reformers' Tree—Open-air meeting—Speakers, Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss Meikle 3.0

MAY 4.

Highgate—Spears Memorial Hall, Highgate Hill—Annual Branch Meeting—Lantern Lecture by Miss Hibbert Ware, F.L.S., on "Pioneers of Women's Education"—Speaker, Miss Clementina Black—Chair, Mrs. Garnett 8.0

MAY 6.

Ealing and Acton—Haven Green—Open-air Meeting—Chair, Mrs. Vane Turner 6.0

Harrow—Public Hall—Speakers, Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G.—Chair, Mr. A. K. Carlyon, D.L., J.P. 8.30

West Newington—1A, New Street—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Quarmby—Speaker, Mrs. Hunter—Chair, Mrs. Ford Smith 3.0

Wimbledon—9, Ridgeway Gardens—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Webster—Miss Hay Cooper on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement"—Chair, Lt.-Col. Seton Churchill 3.15

West Kensington—1A, New Street—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Quarmby—Speaker, Mrs. Hunter 3.0

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MEMORIAL HALL, MANCHESTER.—Tuesday, May 19th, at 7.30 p.m. Concert by Hope Squire and Frank Merrick. Works for two pianofortes. Tickets, 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s., at Messrs. Forsyth Bros., Deansgate, Manchester.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Tuesday, May 5th, at 3 p.m. New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. Mr. J. T. Grein, "The Drama as an Ethical Force," and Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck.

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MAY 7.

Fulham—Fulham Town Hall (Concert Hall)—Debate—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G., and Mrs. Harold Norris 8.15
North and East St. Pancras—St. Martin's Hall, Vicars Road, Gospel Oak—Social Meeting for F.W.S.—Speaker, Mrs. Ronald Garrett—Chair, Mrs. Holyoake Marsh 8.0
West Islington—Cattle Market, North Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Stoehr and others—Chair, Mr. F. W. Flear 8.0

MAY 8.

North Hackney—156, Graham Road, Dalston—Workers' Meeting 8.0

The Provinces.

MAY 1.

Birmingham—Queen's College—Members of Franchise Club and Friends—Mrs. Harley on "The Active Service League"
Chipperfield—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss D. Mason 8.0
Leeds University Working Men's Institute, Berking Avenue York Road—Debate on Women's Suffrage—For: Miss I. O. Ford—Against: Mrs. Gladstone Solomon 8.0
Parton—Reading Room—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke—Chair, Mr. W. Farrer 8.0
Southampton—Art Gallery—Mr. Philip O'Bryen Hoare on "The Cry for Mentality" 3.30
Wakefield—Church Club, Westgate—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham—Chair, the Rev. J. G. Love 3.0

MAY 2.

Taunton—11, The Crescent—Hostess, Mrs. Hudleston—Second Monthly Meeting of Committee and a few Members to discuss Rummage Sale

MAY 3.

South Shields—Queen's Theatre—Speakers, Miss Margaret Robertson, Mr. Baillie McKerrell

MAY 4.

Apsley Mills—Open-air meeting—Speaker, Miss D. Mason 12.0
Birmingham—Conference Hall, Small Heath—Mrs. Ring will address the Shop Assistants 8.45
Bournemouth—St. Peter's Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Snowden—Chair, Dr. Esslemont 8.0
Chopwell—Workmen's Hall—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson
Dunmow—Town Hall—Speakers, Mrs. Bethune-Baker, Mr. W. F. Mirrlees—Chair, the Rev. John Evans 8.0
Leavesden—Schoolroom—Speaker, Miss D. Mason 8.0
Luton—Town Hall—Speakers, The Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Barbara McKenzie—Chair, Mr. Milner Gray 8.0
Manchester—South Salford Suffrage Club, Oldfield Hall, Gardenwall Street—Annual Meeting—Speaker, Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A. 7.30
Pontypool—Town Hall—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser—Chair, The Rev. Edward Morgan, M.A. (Vicar of Trevethin and Rural Dean)
Solihul—The Church House—Meeting for F.W.S.—Speaker, Miss Kirby—Tea and Entertainment 3.30
West Bromwich—Library Lecture Room—Speaker, Mr. W. Belcher on "Sweated Industries"—Chair, Mr. Wilkins 8.0
Weymouth—Cromwell Road—Open-air meeting—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke 7.30

MAY 5.

Bristol—40, Park Street—At Home—Mrs. H. Hicks on "The Disabilities of Wives and Mothers" 3.0
East Bristol—Miss A. M. Clough on "Pensions for Babies"
King's Langley—Church House—Speakers, Miss D. Mason, M.A., Mr. H. Baillie-Weaver, LL.B.—Chair, Mr. William Archer 8.0
Ouston—Workmen's Hall—Speakers, Miss Margaret Robertson, the Rev. W. E. Moll
Seaton Harbour—Londonderry Institute—Speaker, Miss E. Sheard 7.30
Southsea—Suffrage Rooms, 2, Kent Road—Dr. Sloan Chesser on "The Disabilities of Wives and Mothers" 3—8.0
Weymouth—Burdon Hall—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke—Chair, Miss Thurstan 8.0

MAY 6.

Ardingly—The Rectory—Drawing-room meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Brack—Mrs. Francis on "The Meaning of the Woman's Movement" 3.30—6.30
Ascot—"The Brackens"—Hostess, Mrs. King George—Speaker, Miss Margaret Hamilton 3.45
Castlemorton—Speaker, Miss Helen Knight 3.0
Eastbourne—The Suffrage Rooms, 134, Terminus Road—Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser on "Woman, Marriage and Motherhood" 5.15
Hyde—P.S.A. Hall—The Rev. Leonard Short on "The Religious Aspect of the Woman's Movement" 8.0
Leeds—Suffrage Offices, 35, Park Square—Miss E. W. Whiting (Hon. Probation Officer at the Leeds Children's Courts) on "Juvenile Offenders" 7.30
Mere—Victoria Hall—Miss G. Cooke on "The Religious Aspect of the Woman's Movement" 8.0
Pershore—Three Tuns Hotel—Mrs. Ring on "Women—Their Work and Wages"—Chair, The Archdeacon of Warwick 8.0
Shipston-on-Stour—Speaker, Mrs. Osler—Chair, The Rev. W. Ingham Brooke
Slough—Village Hall, Iver Heath—Speaker, The Lady Betty Balfour—Chair, Miss Violet Eustace 3.0
Stanley—Store Hall—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson
Taunton—Fllook House—Hostess, Miss Sibly

MAY 7.

Brentwood—Somerset Hall—Mrs. Vulliamy (of the Criminal Law Amendment Act Committee) on "Parliament and Moral Reform" 8.0
Bristol—40, Park Street—Meeting to arrange Lightning Campaign 3.30
Stevenage—"The Chestnuts"—Blouse Sale 3.0
Tunbridge Wells—Great Hall—Speakers, Lady Margaret Sackville, Mr. Baillie-Weaver, LL.B. 8.0
Washington—Store Hall—Speakers, The Rev. A. Begg, Miss Margaret Robertson

MAY 8.

Bristol—St. Paul's Lecture Hall, Clifton—Professor Skemp on "Dante Gabriel Rossetti" 8.0
Swansea—Y.M.C.A. Hall—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser—Chair, Miss Dillwyn 3.30
Parish Hall, Morriston—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 8.0
Upton-on-Severn—Town Hall—Mrs. Ring on "Women in Sweated Industries"—Tea 3.0
Lecture illustrated by lantern slides—Speakers, Mrs. Ring, Miss Helen Knight—Chair, Mr. Paget Norbury 8.0

Scotland.

MAY 1.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Speech on "Deputation to Scottish Members of Parliament with regard to Sweated Work in Scotland" 4.30

MAY 6.

Aberdeen—Grand Hotel—"At Home" to meet Miss L. Lumsden, LL.D.—Speakers, Miss Lumsden, Dr. Elsie Inglis, Dr. Laura Sandeman, Professor D. Cairns, D.D., the Rev. J. A. M'Clymont, D.D., V.D.—Tickets (1s. each) from 214, Union Street 8—10.30

MAY 7.

Montrose—Speaker, Dr. Elsie Inglis

MAY 8.

Brechin—Speaker, Dr. Elsie Inglis 8.0
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Miss Low on "The Council Meeting"

Items of Interest.

A Special Issue of the C.C.

Our issue of April 9th was specially designed to interest and educate people who have not hitherto heard much about the constitutional side of the Suffrage movement. It explains in a simple fashion the objects and methods of the N.U., and contains a short biography of Mrs. Fawcett, with the well-known portrait by Ford Madox Brown on one page, and on the other—facing it—a reproduction of an old cartoon from *Punch* of about the same period; the contrast showing the difference between the true Suffragist and the caricature, as represented by those who fail to understand the movement.

Will members who are undertaking propaganda work, especially in new districts, send for copies of this issue for distribution; 9d. per dozen, carriage paid.

Do not fail to Buy our Catalogue.

Readers who were unable to go to "Woman's Kingdom" should send without fail for a catalogue. In this will be found not only a full account of all the exhibits, but a mass of information invaluable to Suffragists on a great variety of subjects. Many Suffragists, too, like to give their custom to art and craft workers, tradesmen, and others who support the enterprises of the N.U. The catalogue, which has a new photograph of Mrs. Fawcett, especially taken for the occasion, can be obtained from the National Union, 14, Great Smith-street, S.W. (price 3d. post free).

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MISS FRASER'S TOUR IN IRELAND.

Miss Helen Fraser concluded a three weeks' tour in Ireland on April 3rd last. This is the second visit Miss Fraser has paid to Ireland, and it is satisfactory to note that, in spite of the political crisis and the intense feeling which it arouses North and South alike, the meetings were well attended in every case, and new members enrolled. During the whole tour Miss Fraser gained over ninety members for the Federation, and the indirect value of her visit in arousing interest and quickening enthusiasm cannot be measured. Miss Fraser's tour included all over Ireland, from Derry to Cork, and equally pleasant accounts come to hand in all cases. In one small northern town, a society started on the occasion of Miss Fraser's visit last year was able to organise a successful meeting entirely without help from headquarters, and has now a membership roll of forty-seven. In another Southern town, where the first Suffrage meeting was held last year, people were turned away from the door, the hall not being large enough for the crowd. Meanwhile the meetings in established centres—Dublin, Lisburn, Waterford, Belfast, Cork and Tralee—showed that steady progress is being made. New ground was broken in Carlow and Wicklow, and the whole result of the tour, under such difficult circumstances, was felt to be most encouraging.

Items of Interest.

Woman Captain of Atlantic Liner.

Women are now becoming fully qualified sea-going captains, and Frau Baudinz is reported by the *Daily Citizen* of April 29th as being the first woman to have the command of a passenger vessel. Frau Baudinz, who easily obtained a captain's certificate, has commanded cruising vessels in so satisfactory a manner that she is now in charge of a liner making voyages between Copenhagen and America, her official position being recognised by the fact that the ship is fully insured. Dr. Baudinz, her husband, has been appointed doctor on board the vessel, and is thus bound to obey the orders of his wife, who holds a superior position.

Parishioners' Protest Against Lady Sexton's Dismissal.

Great indignation is felt at Crowland, near Spalding, owing to the action of the new rector in dismissing the lady sexton, Miss Hill, on the grounds that women sextons cannot properly perform their duties, and that it is the incumbent's right to appoint the sexton, not the vestry's. Miss Hill has held the office for fourteen years, and members of her family have been sextons in this parish for over 155 years. A large public protest meeting has been held at Crowland, and a defence fund opened, so that the legality of the rector's action may be tested.

Women as Lawyers.

At a lecture given on "Women in the Legal Profession" at "Woman's Kingdom," Olympia, Miss Chrystal Macmillan pointed out that women can practise law in the Argentine as advocates, in France as barristers, in the Netherlands as qualified lawyers, in Norway (where one woman is also a judge), in Finland, and in Switzerland in some cantons. In Denmark, New Zealand, Australia (except in New South Wales), parts of Canada, and in Sweden, if they are unmarried, women may also practise. In the United States law is an old-established profession for women, and they may practise in all the States but three. The Editor of the *Women Lawyers' Journal* says that there are over 1,000 women lawyers, and there is no doubt that they achieve success in this profession, which has only been open to them after a long and hard struggle.

Miss Macmillan told some interesting stories of women acting as lawyers. Johannes Andreas (*d.* 1348), the great canonist of Bologna, was much indebted to his wife Mailancia for helping him to solve law difficulties. His two daughters were both of assistance to him in his work, one of them, Novella, lecturing to his students if her father was away, and after her marriage with Johannes Caldenius, an eminent counsellor, she often assisted him in advising cases. Bitizzia Godzadini (1500-1546), the daughter of a Bolognese noble, was the most brilliant woman lawyer. She was created a doctor of laws at Bologna, and lectured at first privately, and afterwards publicly, upon the Institutes of Justinian.

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SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A SUFFRAGE JUMBLE SALE will be held in Hampstead on May 21st; contributions of clothes, boots, household utensils, &c., gladly received; nothing is too old.—Send to Mrs. Oliver Strachey, 96, South Hill Park, Hampstead Heath.

WANTED, by Felixstowe Society, sweets, home-made cakes, or dainties, or useful trifles for a stall in a local exhibition, May 6th to 16th.—Write, Miss Place, 24, Quilter-rd., Felixstowe.

"BEYOND THE LAW," by A British Mother, 4d.—Bumpus, 350, Oxford-street, Whiteley's, Queen's-road, Bayswater, Booksellers, Edinburgh, Glasgow.

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(*Continued from page 95.*)

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